

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Winter 2012

Volume 20, Number 4



LARGE SIZED PLANCHET
Vlack 21-I-87D-I

Featured in this issue:

- Bits and Dollars
- Yale University Connecticut Collection
- V.21-I-87D-I Machin's Mill
- 1783 Irish Counterfeit Halfpennies
- Abel Buel(l) Letter
- Recap – C4 Convention
- Retz Collection of Fugios



Official
Baltimore
Auction

OUR SINCERE THANKS

To the Colonial Coin Collectors Club for Making
the Early American Coin Session a Success!

Stack's Bowers Galleries would like to extend our warmest gratitude to the Colonial Coin Collectors Club and all who participated in the November 2012 Official Auction of the Whitman Coin and Collectibles Baltimore Expo Early American Coin Session. It was our great honor to help support the organization's longstanding tradition to increase public awareness of colonial numismatics and promote the study of colonial coins.

We are excited to join with C4 once again for a special auction of colonial coinage and related materials at the **November 2013 Official Auction of the Whitman Coin and Collectibles Baltimore Expo**, and are currently inviting consignments. Call us today to consign to this exclusive auction.

Impressive Colonial Highlights from the November 2012 Auction Include:



Undated (1616) Sommer Islands Sixpence.
BAM Type I. Large Portholes. VF-20 (PCGS).
From the John "Jack" Royse Collection.
Ex: Roper.
Realized \$86,250



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Realized \$431,250



1787 Excelsior Copper. W-5790.
George Clinton. Fine-15 (PCGS).
From the John "Jack" Royse Collection.
Ex: Roper.
Realized \$218,500



Undated (Circa 1663-1672) St. Patrick or Mark
Newby Farthing. Breen-210. Silver.
Nothing Below King. AU-58
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Realized \$80,500



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Mint. W-11825. VF-20 (PCGS).
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1817 New Spain (Texas) Jola, or 1/2 Real.
VF-20 (PCGS). Secure Holder.
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800.458.4646 West Coast Office

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1063 McGaw Avenue Ste 100, Irvine, CA 92614 • 949.253.0916

info@stacksbowers.com • StacksBowers.com

California • New York • New England • Hong Kong

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Web address: www.colonialcoins.org

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C4 National Officers:

President	Jim Rosen 9 Seminole Way Bloomfield, CT 06002 860-242-1330 (h) 860-670-6448 (c) jprosen1@comcast.net	Secretary:	Frank Steimle 2200 Appleby Drive Wanamassa, NJ 07712 fsteimle@aol.com
Vice-President	Jack Howes 19967 East Doyle Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236 jackhowes@yahoo.com	Past-President:	Ray Williams 924 Norway Ave. Trenton, NJ 08629 609-587-5929 (until 11pm) njaywms@optonline.net
Treasurer:	Charlie Rohrer P.O. Box 25 Mountville, PA 17554 RohrerC@cadmus.com		

C4 Regional Vice Presidents:

Region 1 (New England, Quebec, Canadian Maritimes)

Mike Wierzba
P.O. Box 301
Rockland, MA 02370
339-4699-1556
Mike@nerarities.com

Region 5 (OK, TX, NM, AZ, ID, WY, CO, MT, UT, NV, Mexico)

Craig McDonald
P.O. Box 1231
Frisco, TX 75034
cmcdon0923@aol.com

Region 2 (NY, NJ, PA, MD, DE, DC)

Dr. David Menchell
P.O. Box 656832
Fresh Meadows, NY 11365
dmenchell@aol.com

Region 6 (CA, HI)

Randy Clark
P.O. Box 20187
San Jose, CA 95160
auctori.connec@gmail.com

Region 3 (VA, WV, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, TN, AR, PR)

Stan Stephens
1469 Fenwick St.
Star City, WV 26505
sstephens@hsc.wvu.edu

Region 7 (OR, WA, BC, AK, AB)

Buell Ish
P.O. Box 2522
Redmond, WA 98073
buell@vectrafitness.com

Region 4 (OH, IN, IL, MI, WI, KY, IA, ND, SD, MN, KS, MO, NE, Ontario, Manitoba)

Louis Jordan
52087 Central Avenue
South Bend, IN 46637
574-277-5846
ljordan@nd.edu

C4 Newsletter Editor:

Sydney F. Martin, Editor: sfmartin5@comcast.net; 215-348-9925

Associate Editor: Roger Siboni; rogersiboni@gmail.com

Articles and classified ads may be e-mailed to Syd; sent to him at 21 Shady Springs Drive, Doylestown, PA 18901; or sent to Roger at the indicated e-mail address. Roger monitors the internet chatrooms of interest.

C4 Librarian:

Leo Shane

1130 Woods Lane, Warminster, PA 18974

Leo_j_shane@hotmail.com

Chair: C4 Public Relations Committee

Mary Sauvain

P.O. Box 25910, Colorado Springs, CO 80936

719-331-3424 (cell); mesauvain@aol.com



TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message (Jim Rosen)	3
Two Bits, Four Bits, Six Bits, a Dollar (Ray Williams)	4
The Yale University Collection of Connecticut Coppers (Randy Clark, Peter Griffin, and Robert Martin)	5
An Overview of Spread Planchets Occurring on Atlee Halfpence Variety V.21-I-87D-I (Marcus Mayhugh)	17
1783 Dated Counterfeit Irish Halfpence: A Non-Regal Research Group Project (Roger A. Moore, Charles Rohrer, and Rickie L. Rose)	24
Abel Buel's Letter Home (Peter Griffin)	41
To Everything, Turn, Turn . . . (Jeff Rock)	47
C4 Convention Report, Baltimore 2012 (Jim Rosen; Ray Williams)	50
2012 Fourth Quarter Colonial Coins Market Report (John Kraljevich)	55
Not all Colonial Period Coins Were Used for Commerce (Ray Williams)	63
Honorials and Memorials Funds Established	64
C4 Library News (Leo Shane)	65
Announcements	66
Classified Ads	69

Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer at P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554. Dues are \$25-regular (including 1st class mailing of the *Newsletter*); \$10 for junior members (under 18).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Jim Rosen)

It is December 12, 2012 and I am still basking in the memories of our first convention post-Boston, after meeting there for 15 years. We all had some trepidations about this location; most of us never saw any other venue but Boston. But our Board worked very hard to put on this convention, and even though there were some bumps in the road, they were paved over nicely with a seamless result. In a word, the convention was GREAT! We had a much larger social area, a bourse floor that included ~1,000 dealers compared to 80 in Boston, new faces and new surroundings. The educational programs were excellent with fill-ins by yours truly (a discussion on the Continental Currency coins) and Jack Howes (an excellent presentation on the mysterious Ryder-40)! Jack Howes, Buell Ish and John Kraljevick rounded out the evening. Dennis Wierzba, our bourse Chairman did a fantastic job in a new venue and the hard work paid off.

Our auction, co-sponsored by Stack's Bowers, was a tremendous success, with over 900 lots featuring some great rarities – just review your catalogue. Prices were strong, with internet bidding and phone bidding capturing many of the great examples. Our new association with Stack's Bowers ensures us of having a strong auction, and along with it, a wonderful convention. Although we don't have a complete count, I think this years attendance was an all-time record.

Our plans for next year's convention are to be in Baltimore again on November 7-10, 2013. Please check our website for all updated information about next year's convention. Also, the Whitman website www.whitmanexpo.com will have all the show information.

A new idea that was discussed at this year's convention, resurrected from a number of years ago, is the concept of educational grants to our members. Our Mission is to enhance Colonial numismatic education and knowledge, be it in the realm of coins or currency, and what better way to fulfill it than to offer research grants to our members. Although this concept is in the early stages of development, my vision is that members will apply via an application for a grant to do research on a specific topic. This grant will in all likelihood be able to supplement the costs of a research project, covering such things as travel, room and board, photocopying etc. Once completed, a requirement will be to publish one's results in our *Newsletter*. This is just one way that the Board feels we are committed to Colonial Research. Please stay tuned as more information will be forth coming.

As a reminder for those who may not be cognizant of our DVDs, we are now offering for sale searchable DVDs to all. The DVDs contain all the *C4 Newsletters* from 1993 (Vol 1. No.1) thru 2011 (Vol. 19 No. 4). All these *Newsletters* are now at your fingertips. Price for the DVD is \$50 for members and \$75 for non-members with renewal DVDs coming out every two years for ~\$15. What a great resource, for it sure beats looking through dozens of *Newsletters* and allows you to easily search a topic or author. Many thanks to Randy Clark, Gary Trudgen and Ray Williams for instigating and completing this enormous project.

In closing, I hope that you all had a very healthy and happy holiday season. Our country sadly has been gripped in mourning for the terrible loss of life in Newtown, CT. As we reflect on 2012, our thoughts and prayers are with those families who have lost their beloved children, grandchildren, siblings, and the adults who lost their lives protecting those children as they attempt to heal from this incomprehensible tragedy.

TWO BITS, FOUR BITS, SIX BITS, A DOLLAR

(Ray Williams)

The notes pictured below were purchased from a local coin dealer because they were unusual and the price was right. After owning them for a while, some thoughts came to mind that I'd like to share with other collectors.

My first observation was that both notes were of a very small denomination. This would seem to indicate that there was not enough small change in circulation to meet the commercial needs of the time (1837) and region (Philadelphia).

My second observation was the unusual denomination of the second note, which is $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents. Although strange to us today, $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents would have been commonly encountered in the early 1800s. It was $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Spanish 2 Real coin, which was used in commerce about on par with a US quarter. The influence of Spanish coinage on the American economy is evident from the earliest period of colonization until it was demonetized in 1857 (and continued to circulate long after).

The existence of these notes wouldn't be surprising if they were issued by a bank on the expanding western frontier. But it amazes me that in 1837 there would be the need for 5 and $6\frac{1}{4}$ cent notes by the Schuylkill Savings Institution, a bank located within walking distance of the Philadelphia Mint! After being in operation for 44 years, the Philadelphia Mint was not producing enough coinage to meet the local commercial needs in 1837. Coins and denominations from our colonial time period were still a very important part of our economy. It would take another 20 years for the Philadelphia Mint, and its branches, to catch up with the growing needs of our still young nation and for legislation to pass demonetizing foreign coinage.



THE YALE UNIVERSITY COLLECTION OF CONNECTICUT COPPERS

(Randy Clark, Peter Griffin, and Robert Martin)

There are several important institutional holdings of Connecticut coppers that have been relatively inaccessible since the late 20th century, due either to budget constraints, organizational changes or concerns about security of coins. It is important to catalog and evaluate these collections to help understand variety rarities and die states, study donors of material and document the history of the holdings. This article will discuss new as well as old information related to the Yale University collection of Connecticut state coppers.

The Yale Collection¹

In March 2012, pursuing yet another random internet search for “Connecticut coppers,” a surprising result was found ... web based images of the Yale University Connecticut copper collection. Ironically, similar searches in prior years had located the ANS’s various photographic efforts.

Each Yale coin is shown in their on-line Art Museum “eCatalogue” with low resolution obverse and reverse images, weight, an accession number and brief accompanying details. Unfortunately, or in my case fortunately, there were no variety attributions for the coins. After downloading each obverse and reverse image for further study – and dedicating hours of flipping through my notes to test their usefulness and accuracy – each coin was assigned a variety and a cumulative summary of the collection made.

There are 278 Connecticut coppers in Yale’s collection, representing 152 conventional varieties, 1 mule, 1 exotic Bungtown and 12 as yet unattributed (low grade) specimens. Brief information is available with each specimen in the on-line database showing donation source. Of particular note are two coins donated by Charles Wyllys Betts and two by E. R. Barnsley – the former a published 19th century numismatist, the latter a noted 20th century Connecticut copper specialist. However, the majority of entries in Yale’s database are cataloged as “Old University Collection” or listed with no donor information at all.

I made contact with the curator of the Yale’s numismatic collection, Dr. William Metcalf (once Chief Curator at the ANS) to introduce myself, thank him for the team’s efforts to make this information available and to inquire on background of the collection. He replied the numismatic collection was in the middle of a move from the Sterling Library to the Art Museum ... and asked I wait until mid-year 2012 before further background information when the collection itself would be accessible.

Potential Significance of Yale's Collection

The proximity of Yale University in New Haven to 1785-1788 era Connecticut minting efforts makes it unusually important as a potential source of related documentation and specimens. Legislative proposals to mint coppers in the state were initiated and financially supported by New Haven City and County representatives James Hillhouse, Joseph Hopkins, Samuel Bishop and John Goodrich. City financiers Pierpoint Edwards, Jonathan Ingersoll and Elias Shipman bankrolled the effort, and county resident Abel Buell was among the lead mechanics associated with artistry, manufacturing and metallurgy. The mint itself operated within New Haven County at all times,² and some operations were performed within the city itself. Several mint principals were Yale educated, including James Hillhouse, John Goodrich, Jonathan Ingersoll and Mark Leavenworth. The Yale Library retains archive files from several of these individuals.

One of the first references to availability of coppers in New Haven is found in then Yale President Ezra Stiles' personal diary³. The entry, dated February 9, 1786, states, "I gave a public Philosophical Lecture in Chapel upon fixation of Mercury at Salem by artificial Cold.* Coppers coined in New Haven by Order of Assembly first issued."

A hope has long been held among modern researchers that Yale University archives and other New Haven County resources would shed additional light on the Connecticut mint. It is known that specimens in regional New Haven institutional holdings date to bestowments from the late 18th and early 19th centuries, as well.

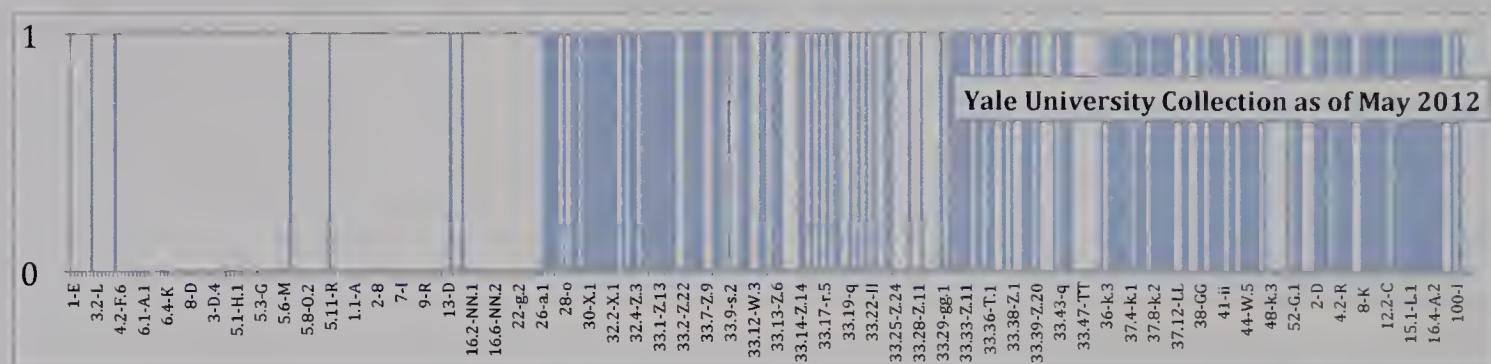
Consulting Robert Martin

A call was made to Connecticut collector extraordinaire, Robert Martin, in March to discuss the Yale collection and findings. A series of discussions ensued, going over what was known about the Yale collection. An article in *The Numismatist* from August 1935 by C.F. Luther was the earliest located which discussed Yale holdings. There was an article in *The Colonial Newsletter* by T.V. Buttrey dated January 1962 documenting three unique Connecticut varieties in the Yale collection (1787 M33.35-Z.1, 1788 M14.1-S and 16.4-A.2) with accompanying black and white images. We also discussed Wyllys Betts because the collection holds two coins he personally studied, documented and donated - the discovery 1786 Bungtown Connecticut and a 1788 Connecticut/Counterfeit mule.

One important and unresolved aspect of these conversations was an observation that the Yale collection was imbalanced in varieties and years represented. There was extremely little material dated 1785, 1786 or listed in the lower numbered 1787 varieties. It was also noted the current total of 278 Connecticut coppers (153 varieties plus 1 exotic) falls short of the 400 specimens (168 varieties) referred to in C.F. Luther's August 1935 article. However, since the Yale collection and documentation were in transit between homes, it was decided to inquire on this inconsistency later in the year.

*The word actually is "Cold". Yale President Ezra Stiles was a budding scientist working with the use of mercury to measure temperature. Fahrenheit made a mercury thermometer circa 1724 in England, creating a scale with his name. Celsius made his temperature scale in 1742. It's not clear what Ezra Stiles was doing on Feb 9, 1786, but perhaps the "artificial cold" was the topic rather than the use of mercury. Randy

The gap in Yale's holdings is illustrated in the chart below, showing coin variety on the horizontal axis (each small tic mark represents a type – starting with 1785 variety 1-E on the far left and ending with 1788 variety 128-I on the far right - 359 in all, including mules). Because of text size limitations, not all varieties have a label ... but they're all there. A “1” is assigned if one or more of a variety is present in the collection, a “zero” if none are present. Note the absence of 1785, 1786 and part of the 1787 material.



For comparison, the current ANS Connecticut copper holdings are shown below.



C. Wyllys Betts

There are several coins in the Yale University collection donated by Charles Wyllys Betts, either from his years at Yale in the 1860s or in the 1880s during his involvement with the ANS studying medals and counterfeit halfpence. Of relevance to the Connecticut series are two coppers in the collection Betts donated which were not produced by the New Haven mint.

The first, more exotic specimen is a unique “Bungtown” counterfeit copper which Betts illustrated and described as No. 7 in his 1886 *Counterfeit Halfpence current in the American Colonies* manuscript.⁴ There is much speculation on the origin of this piece, but little fact to determine if it is a contemporary counterfeit or more modern fantasy piece. Betts No. 7 was later designated 1786 Connecticut type 2.3-T by Edward Barnsley in the CNL, March 1964, and later re-designated 1786 type 8.1-T in the *C4 Newsletter*, Fall 2010.

The second coin is a muling of a counterfeit **GEORGIUS III. REX.** halfpence obverse with a Connecticut reverse, described by Betts as No. 21. The coin is generally considered a contemporary counterfeit from Machin's Mills of Newburgh, NY. It was

designated counterfeit copper type Vlack 13-88CT by Robert Vlack in 1974 and received a second designation as 1788 Connecticut type 101-D by Edward Barnsley in CNL, March 1964.



Betts No. 7 Illustration (1886) CT 1786 M8.1-T (ex M2.3-T) Betts Donation



CT 1788 M101-D (Vlack 13-88CT) Betts Donation Betts No. 21 Illustration (1886)

Charles Wyllys Betts (1845-1887) was Yale educated (1867, 1871) and an interesting, somewhat divisive character in 1860-1870 New Haven. He had applied his skills in engraving at an early age to making one-of-a-kind, often crude and early dated, coins, store cards and medals. These specimens, now classified as “Betts Fantasy Pieces,” fooled careless collectors into believing the coins were older and more historically significant than they were. Betts contended his efforts were not intended to defraud the public and commented, “The earlier ones I look upon with some interest because they used to afford me a great deal of amusement, not only in the making, but in the astonishment of collectors when looking over my cabinet.” Betts was also involved in the New Haven “discovery” of Fugio dies in the early 1860s, which continues to be a subject of speculation on authenticity. One of several Fugio “restrike” dies is in the current Yale collection. In the 1880s, Betts became a contributing member of the ANS, publishing his manuscript on counterfeit halfpence and another, *American Colonial History Illustrated by Medals*.

In a subsequent visit to Yale’s collection (see below), the numismatic staff supplied a donation listing, detailing those from Betts to Yale. His earliest donations were made in 1863, when he was an entering freshman and eighteen years of age. Subsequent donations from Betts are listed as “before 1880,” 1886, and 1887. The 1887 donation has a note beside it – “bequest; large collection, esp. US & Colonial issues.” The authors are tracking down additional information on these donations.

C.F. Luther

In the *Report of the Librarian of Yale University for 1934-1935*⁵, Librarian Reverend Mr. Owen⁶ discussed recent progress made on organizing Yale's numismatic collection of American coins, stating, "The Reverend C.F. Luther has about completed his work upon our series of the so-called Colonial coppers of Connecticut, a series which he considers to be of remarkable excellence and fullness." He further notes, "As part of our exhibition in connection with the Connecticut Tercentenary our collection of the Connecticut coppers mentioned above" was offered. That reference needs additional investigation to understand where, in 1935, the exhibition was made and what was included.

The Reverend Charles Fisher Luther (1885- ?) had graduated Yale University in 1908. He published his numismatic findings in "Connecticut Cents in the Yale Collection," which appeared in the August 1935 *The Numismatist*:⁷

For a number of years it has been my privilege, while attending the annual convocation at the Yale Divinity School, to spend some portion of the time in the coin room of the University Library, classifying the Connecticut cents in the very extensive general collection which the University possesses. And while the collection does not stand at the head in the matter of numbers it is, nevertheless, highly interesting in the new mulings which have come to light. To the three varieties mentioned in my article on page 38 of *The Numismatist*, 1928, must be added two entirely new varieties, or at least one variety and one confirming a description in Crosby which Miller failed to find. These several additions bring the total [of potential varieties] so far listed up to 323. The number of varieties attributed in the Yale collection is 168. The number was reached by attributing some 285 pieces according to Miller classification. The total number of pieces in the collection is well up to 400, the balance being either so mutilated or so indistinct that attribution was extremely difficult if not impossible.

It would doubtless add to interest in the collection if some record or account of its assembling could be given, but records are lamentably lacking. The coins were in trays labeled "Old University Collection," a mark revealing next to nothing. It is known that a former curator was Jonathan Edwards, of the class of 1863, and it is beyond question that it was he who made or at any rate greatly increased the collection between the time of his graduation and his death in 1886. Only a very small part of the collection bore any labels, although pieces manifestly of the same general type were arranged in groups.

Reverend Luther goes on to describe two new varieties he located in Yale's holdings, one which he identified as 1787 M22-c and the other as 1787 M37.15-f. Attributing with a Miller and Crosby text is very difficult, which many long time

collectors can attest to. It is believed the actual varieties Rev. Luther located are more properly identified as 1787 M22-g.2 and 1787 M37.11-ff.2, based upon his descriptions and presence of the M37.11-ff.2 in the current holdings. There is no 1787 M22-g.2 in the current Yale collection. Additionally, there does not appear to be any record of C.F. Luther's variety listings from his evaluation of Yale's collection.

Consulting Peter Griffin

Peter and I have been conducting original research independently and, recently, collaboratively, on the Connecticut mint, its location, owners, finances, etc. After a several year hiatus, Peter has resumed his investigations, including exploring the archives of his alma mater, Yale University. In June 2012, Peter contacted me to discuss a planned visit to the New Haven area, including accessing the Yale University archives and collection of Connecticut copper.

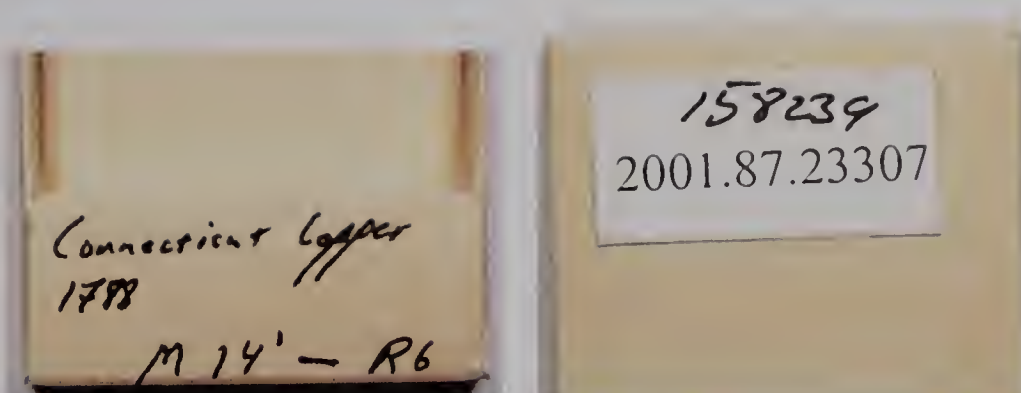
I informed Peter of the web-based Yale images, the recent documentation of their holdings and my prior communication with curator Dr. Metcalf. Peter had independently arranged with Dr. Metcalf to view the Yale Connecticut copper holdings, which had finished their move and were ready to be made accessible to authorized visitors.

Peter was kind enough to invite Robert Martin along for the upcoming viewing and made arrangements to meet him in New Haven on the day of visit. For many decades Robert had wanted to view the Yale holdings in person, and this was a golden opportunity he could not pass up. In preparation, Peter and Robert reviewed the recent Yale web images and documentation to decide which coins were most important to focus their visit on, and if allowed, to be photographed in high resolution with Peter's macro photography and lighting kit.

The Visit (Peter's Notes)

Robert and I (Peter) visited Yale in mid-June. The Yale Art Gallery is in the process of undergoing an extensive renovation. The coin collection, and the coin room, are among the first completed parts of the renovation. The results are impressive. The coin room has modern appointments to make research easy – lots of light, a large clutter-free work area, high speed wireless, and top notch security. William Metcalf, and the post doctoral fellow working for him, were accommodating and happy to make the Yale collection available.

The Connecticut coppers were housed in acid-free paper boxes, labeled with neat attributions in pen. The coins were obviously cared for recently. It turns out a post-doctoral fellow had attributed the Connecticut coppers the year before Robert and I made our visit. Robert offered a few corrections to the attributions, for which the folks at Yale seemed grateful.



Yale Storage Tray for Variety 1788 M14.1-S (Top View Left, Bottom View Right)

I was permitted to bring in a copy stand and light set up, and to get some decent images of some of the most significant coins in the collection. When they arrived, the 50 or so varieties we had asked to see were already pulled and arranged in trays of 10 for viewing. I attempted to get two shots of each coin viewed – one shot with a single light source, and one with two light sources.

High quality images of several coins were taken for technical analysis. One is variety 1788 M14.1-S from the 1962 CNL article by T.V. Buttrey. While no longer unique, the Yale specimen is the highest grade example, showing extensive die clashing details.



1788 M14.1-S from Peter's Camera



1787 M52-G.2 from Peter's Camera



1788 M16.4-A.2 from Peter's Camera



1786 M8.1-T (Betts No. 7, ex M2.3-T)
from Peter's Camera



History of the Collection

There is some historic documentation regarding history of the Connecticut collection in Yale, much of which was discussed in C.F. Luther's 1935 article. In the 1863 publication *Catalogue of the Cabinet of Coins Belonging to Yale College* author

Henry Champion lists 310 Connecticut coppers in the Yale collection, listed by date.⁸ The preface states:

For many years previous to 1860 there were a few coins belonging to Yale College, which were deposited in the Trumbull Gallery, in glass cases, with little attempt at order of arrangement. This original collection, marked "Yale Coll." in the Catalogue, was a curious one, consisting mainly of old pieces, generally rather rare, and a few of the commonest modern coins. As there was no catalogue of it, most of the pieces have been credited from recollection, and hence there may be a few mistakes.

In United States coins we are sadly deficient; and it surely seems that an American college should be better supplied with specimens of the country's progress in this art. References have been made in the case of Connecticut and Vermont cents to Dickeson's Manual – the number of the variety being given in parenthesis.

Name.	Description.		Metal. cop.	Donor, &c.
Cent.	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1785.	(1)	do	Yale Coll.
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(18)	do	do
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(29)	do	W. L. Kingsley
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(32)	do	do
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(42)	do	W. C. Gilman
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(49)	do	Yale Coll.
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(51)	do	W. L. Kingsley
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1787.	(71)	do	Yale Coll.
do	A Head. <i>Auctori Connec.</i> —1788.	(17)	do	do

1863 Catalog of Yale Connecticut Coppers

Two patrons donated significant material, William Lathrop Kingsley (1824-1896, Yale graduate and editor of the *New Englander* magazine) and William Charles Gilman (possibly donated in his name by his famous son, Daniel Coit Gilman, head librarian at Yale from 1858 to 1865 before becoming president of the University of California in 1872 and president of Johns Hopkins University in 1875). Specifics of older holdings, shown as "Yale Coll." remain a mystery. Whether any material was donated in the 18th century remains a matter of speculation.

Champion's listing places colonial and confederation era coinages in the United States "Modern Coins" category, from Massachusetts silver to state and Washingtonia coppers.

In the latter half of the 19th century, additional material was acquired by Yale through donations of coins and funding, as documented in 1865 by Professor F. P. Fisk and in 1880 by Yale curator Jonathan Edwards. However, these additions were focused on ancient and foreign coinages. Little mention is made of US or "modern" coinages, other than passing references by Edwards to donations from C. W. Betts (1,303 tokens, medals and coins), Henry Champion (1,412 United States, Roman, German and US tokens) and others. None of these names, except Betts, are found in Yale's current Connecticut coppers database, implying only Betts gifted colonial and confederation era material.

Conclusions (First Try)

It was thought a quick summary of the visit and coins viewed would wrap up an article on Yale's collection quite nicely. In final preparation for the article, it was decided to do a complete search of CNL and *C4 Newsletters* to ensure all relevant articles on Yale's coins were noted. Unexpectedly, in Jeff Rock's CNL May 1991 article *Corrigenda Millerensis Revisited*, brief mention was made in the rare 1787 M33.35-Z.1 variety "Reported by T.V. Buttrey in 1962 from the specimen in the Yale University collection (one of only a small number of colonials not stolen in the May 1965 robbery of the Yale Numismatic Collection)."

A few calls were made to Jeff Rock, Ray Williams and others to understand this reference. Little information was documented in collecting circles about the Yale robbery. However, additional internet searches began turning up tantalizing clues. Peter located a New York Times article from May 29, 1965, among others, discussing five hooded bandits entering the Yale University Library numismatic section in the early morning, tying up the night watchman and proceeding to drill their way into the coin vault. The thieves stole an estimated 4,000 coins, choosing those that would be quickly marketable, apparently neglecting the fact a Brasher Doubloon is hardly inconspicuous. The Brasher Doubloon was recovered in a sting operation in November 1967, over two years later (see the September 1981 CNL article by James Risk for more information). Very few other coins from the theft were ever recovered.

Could this be why the Yale Connecticut copper collection was so imbalanced? Was there ever an inventory made of the losses? Another internet search located an article from e-Sylum, dated December 2000,⁹ in which commenter Bill Burd discusses the theft and additional information available.

When considering interesting numismatic robberies, the Yale University coin collection stolen on May 29, 1965 and valued at \$1,000,000 must be added to the list. The robbery was eventually tied to organized crime in Chicago. A coin dealer in Chicago was arrested on possession of stolen property and interstate transportation of stolen property. I have the trial transcripts and a copy of the inventory of the coins stolen.

I contacted Bill Burd, who happens to be a current member of C4, through his business in Chicago. Bill indeed did have a listing of Connecticut copper varieties lost in the 1965 theft. And an interesting list it is!

Those of us who specialize in Connecticut copper know there are nuances and evolutions in taxonomy such that upper case letters, lower case letters, superscripts and/or periods must be well placed and accurate to define a variety correctly. It is expected someone inventorying a 4,000 coin theft in the 1960s may not have been adept at keeping variety details of Connecticut coppers in good order. However, the list is meticulous in its taxonomy of Connecticut coppers and contemporary to the theft in the use of superscripts.

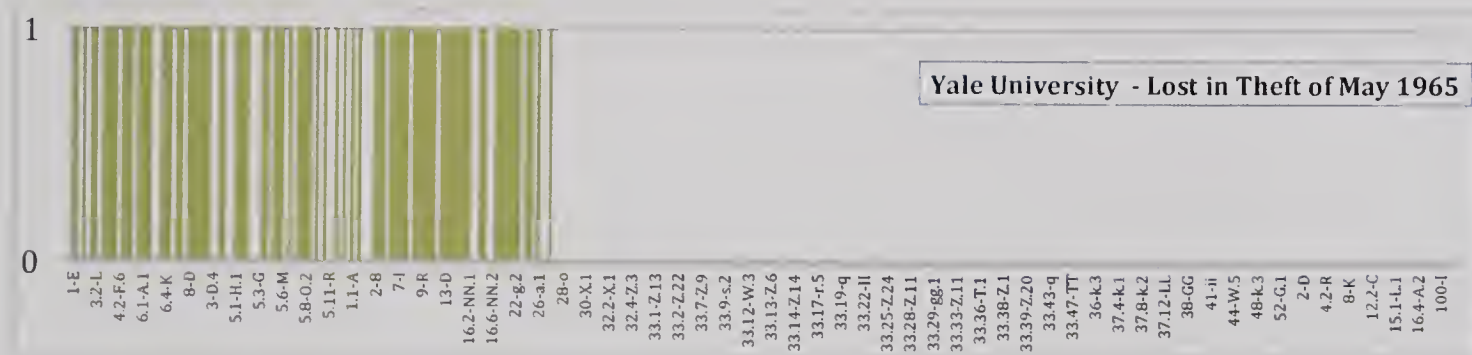
instead of the more modern periods, to designate sub-varieties. For instance, the 1785 African Head is listed as 4¹-F⁴ instead of the more modern 4.1-F.4.

-1785-	1786 (cont.)	1787 (cont.)
1 -E (2)	4 ¹ -G (2)	7 -I (2)
2 -A ¹ (2)	4 ² -R (1)	8 -N (2)
3 ¹ -A ³ (2)	5 ¹ -H ¹ (1)	8 -O (2)
3 ¹ -L (2)	5 ² -H ² (2)	9 -O (3)
3 ² -L (1)	5 ² -I (2)	9 -E (1)
3 ⁴ -F ¹ (2)	5 ² -L (1)	9 -R (2)
3 ⁴ -F ² (2)	5 ³ -N (2)	10 -E (2)
3 ⁵ -B (1)	5 ⁴ -G (2)	11 -E (2)

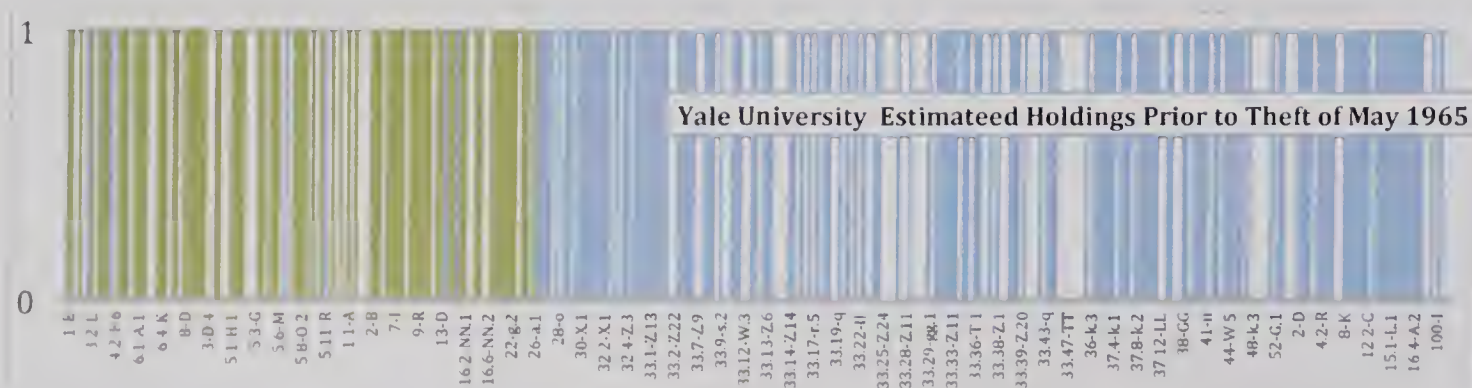
Snippet of May 1965 Connecticut Copper Loss List

When asked who prepared this list, Bill Burd responded he believed it was Ted Buttrey. Current Yale curator, William Metcalf, confirmed Mr. Buttrey was involved in the 1965 robbery investigation and FBI inquiry as a technical advisor on the Yale collection. T.V. (Ted) Buttrey was Librarian of the Numismatic Collection at Yale from 1957 to 1964. In 1964, Buttrey moved to Associate Professor of Greek and Latin at the University of Michigan. He published an article in *The Colonial Newsletter*, January 1962, regarding three unique Connecticut coppers in Yale's collection. Buttrey certainly had the knowledge to properly document colonial and Connecticut coppers and, hence, the list rings true.

What does the listing of Connecticut coppers losses show? The May 1965 theft list contains 151 total Connecticut coppers representing 84 different varieties over the dated range 1785 to 1787. The chart below plots the missing varieties.



Blending the 84 varieties lost in May 1965 with the 152 varieties still in Yale's holdings results in what should be a close representation of the original, pre-theft holdings.



Conclusions (Second Try)

We can now draw more significant conclusions about Yale's Connecticut copper collection. The current holdings contain 12 extreme rarities, which form an important part of the combined series knowledge base. Yale's recent efforts to photograph, catalog and present on their website details from their Connecticut copper collection need to be acknowledged for the significant contributions it will make to the research and collecting community. Also, having an extensive database of images and coin characteristics is a significant theft deterrent for any museum or personal collection. Making material internet accessible, in addition to allowing remote access to the Yale material, will also limit the number of on-site visits to research the coins (a benefit to strained museum budgets and an additional deterrent to theft).

The 1788 portion of Yale's collection has remained intact over the years, as have the majority of 1787 varieties. The infamous Betts No. 7 Bungtown and 3 varieties listed as unique in Buttrey's CNL January 1962 article remain in the Yale collection, although the latter are no longer unique. In addition, the collection contains one of the Fugio "restrike" coining dies enabling future researchers to continue the debate on origin and significance.

It is now clear 1785, 1786 and low variety number 1787 types in Yale's current holdings were donated after May 1965 (the only exception being the 1786 dated Betts-7, which was either held in a different location during the robbery – or was intentionally left behind. This means coppers listed with no donation information are not necessarily 19th century or earlier additions.

Long term effects of the May 1965 robbery will be permanent; since it appears pre-theft records of the Yale Connecticut copper holdings were non-photographic and limited in descriptive detail. These include notable losses of two R7 types (1786 M2.1-D.3 and 1787 M15-R) and several popular R6 types (1785 M6.5-M, 1785 M7.2-D, 1786 M2.2-D.2, 1786 M4.2-R, 1787 M3-G.1, 1787 M7-I).

Rarity	Connecticut Varieties Possible	Yale Current June 2012	Yale Theft May 1965	Yale Estimated Pre-Theft*
R1	10	8	3	10
R2	20	11	9	20
R3	22	6	17	22
R4	30	20	9	28
R5	118	72	32	101
R6	68	24	12	36
R7	48	9	2	11
R8	17	2	0	2
R9	20	0	0	0
CT Total	353	152	84	230
Mules	6	1	0	1
Sub Total	359	153	84	231
Bungtowns	10**	1	0	1
Grand Total	369	154	84	232

* There is some overlap in variety count between Yale's current and lost holdings.

** There are an estimated 10 Bungtown type CT coppers, all potentially unique (and under study).

Dr. T.V. Buttrey, currently a curator of ancients at Cambridge University, was contacted for comments and background on the May 1965 losses at Yale. He replied:

I'm afraid I cannot be of any help to you. I had already left Yale before the theft occurred, and have not thought of it since. As far as I know none of the coins stolen were ever recovered. Two pieces were later identified as in others hands, an early US quarter and the Brasher Doubloon. That was the end of the splendid Yale collection of US coins.

Yet, despite the keenly felt losses of important coins from that unfortunate incident, the Connecticut coppers collection in Yale University remains a significant holding for future study and enjoyment.

Final Thoughts:

More information about the current Yale University colonial and confederation era numismatic collection will be found in an upcoming *C4 Newsletter* article entitled *The Rest of Yale University's Colonial Coin Collection*, which also includes more detail about the May 1965 theft. Two other follow-up articles will also be published in future *C4 Newsletters*, they will be entitled *The Yale University Collection of Massachusetts Silver* and *The Yale University Collection of Fugio Coppers* and will discuss specifics of those collections and histories.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Yale museum holdings search link <http://ecatalogue.art.yale.edu/search.htm>. Connecticut coppers link: <http://ecatalogue.art.yale.edu/results.htm?rf=0&rpp=25&sb=objectNumber&sd=0&ksrch=connecticut+cent&byr=0&eyr=0&pn=1>
- ² The most distant manufacturing site associated with Connecticut's effort at minting coppers was within 10 miles of Yale University. Of course, any efforts associated with Machin's Mills would be more distant.
- ³ The Literary Diary of Ezra Stiles, President of Yale College, Volume III, Franklin B. Dexter, New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1901, p. 208.
- ⁴ Counterfeit Halfpence current in the American Colonies and their issue from the Mints of Connecticut and Vermont, Wyllys Betts, Esq, American Numismatic and Archaeological Society, Burgoyne's Quick Print, New York, 1886.
- ⁵ Bulletin of Yale University, December 14, 1935, New Haven. Pages 22-23.
- ⁶ Three Connecticut coppers currently in the Yale collection as listed as "'Bequest of the Reverend William H. Owen Collection, B.A. 1897". It is assumed these were given to the university after 1935.
- ⁷ The Numismatist, August 1935, page 502.
- ⁸ Catalogue of the Cabinet of Coins Belonging to Yale College, Henry Champion, 1863 New Haven, CT, Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor.
- ⁹ The E-Sylum: Volume 3, Number 51, December 10, 2000, Article 15, Wayne Homren, Editor.

AN OVERVIEW OF SPREAD PLANCHETS OCCURRING ON ATLEE HALFPENCE VARIETY V.21-I-87D-I

(Marcus Mayhugh)

Within the Machin's Mills counterfeit halfpenny series, also known as Atlee halfpence or Tory coppers, are several varieties catalogued by Robert Vlack that appear to be struck on large planchets exhibiting strong central strikes, yet, at the same time, seem weakly struck along the circumference. Over the years, these varieties have come to be termed "spread planchets" due to the size of the pieces, especially when compared to other Machin coins. Some of these varieties are very well known, while others have received little, or hardly any recognition at all. Most of these spread planchet varieties are quite rare. This paper is not intended to be a definitive work on the subject, only a brief examination of the known varieties, and some of the theories associated with them.

It should be noted early on that there is some confusion as to what actually constitutes a spread planchet coin. Only until very recently have these Machin's Mills products been plated and recorded in auction catalogues; therefore, it is very hard to get a read on different varieties. Sometimes written descriptions, and inaccurate data, are all we have to go on. As their popularity has increased, more information about the coins themselves have become available. For example, most auction houses not only plate these American-made halfpennies now, they also provide the weight of the coins. Still, most auction houses do not include the diameter of the coins, a serious omission. To truly get a grip on these particular coppers, all diagnostics should be recorded: diameter, and weight, as well as die rotation.

There are several theories as to why these spread planchet Machins exist. One of the most frequently heard is that the normal sized planchets were struck in a press with a restraining collar, while the larger sized pieces were struck in a press without a collar. The problem with this theory is that the current line of thinking is that Thomas Machin and his associates did not possess a mint sophisticated enough to have a press that contained a closed collar for holding the coins in place – which would have prevented the spread of the planchet during striking.¹ This is a hard call to make positively, since so little is actually known of the Machin coining operation. The "Old Bailey" counterfeiting trial records indicate that collars were used in the 1790's, even in small "Mom & Pop" counterfeiting enterprises.² Even though many modern scholars feel a collar was not employed at the Machin mint the idea should not be discarded out of hand. The theory certainly received its share of play in the past.

A second, and probably more logical explanation for the existence of "spread planchets" is that these planchets were struck from different and perhaps softer metal stock. This makes a great deal of sense as the softer stock would allow for more spreading and possibly a larger-sized coin. One might wonder how this softer stock got spread out over five or so Machin varieties, with each being struck in limited numbers, but the amount of planchet annealing could have varied with each batch of planchets that were prepared.

A final aspect to "spread planchets" is late die states. This might not always be the case, yet the majority of the coins considered to be on spread planchets exhibit a late die state. How a die state could effect the size of a planchet is puzzling; still, die states are often mentioned in a discussion of spread planchets. Thus, we have four recurring themes associated with these types of coins: use of a collar, a softer planchet stock, a different planchet stock, and late die states.

V.21-I-87D-I

The most well known, and scrutinized of all the Machin varieties struck on a spread planchet is V.21-I-87D-I. This is the same variety as V.21-II-87D-II, except it appears to be struck on a larger sized planchet in a supposedly later die state. The newest reference on colonial coins, the Whitman Encyclopedia, lumps the two previously mentioned varieties together and simply calls them Vlack 21-87-D. No mention is made of a larger planchet although it is noted "Two die states, early and late, the last with the tops of the obverse letters missing as well as most of the date and Britannia on the reverse. These are sometimes collected separately."³

There are quite a few explanations associated with how V. 21-I-87D-I came to be. The first, of course, is the "no collar" theory. This was presented early in the discussions of Machins in the Kessler/ Spangenberg sale.⁴ Described as "the variety struck without a collar with consequent poor details to legends, peripheries." This description has been repeated many times over the years to explain the strange appearance of the piece. As has been pointed out, many feel that Machin did not use a collar on any of the coins produced at his mills, which would invalidate this theory.

One of the earliest known, and best-preserved examples of V.21-I-87D-I appeared in the Bowers and Ruddy sale of the Montgomery Collection.⁵ The commentary in that sale attributed the strange condition of the coin to a "light strike." This might be a logical assumption to make, except it does not explain why the center of the coin is so well struck. No mention is made of the planchet size, which is very interesting and will be examined later.

The Stack's sale of September 1993, also contained a well preserved example of this variety. Here, the cataloger of the sale questions the softer planchet stock theory, and instead proposes a different sized planchet stock, and late die states. He suggests that the planchet on this particular example was 1.4mm larger than regular stock. He makes an astute observation that a broad struck copper, would, perhaps, cause edge splits or similar trauma. The piece illustrated in the sale displays no damage and exhibits many denticles around the edge of the coin. The Montgomery coin mentioned above, is an even better example of the variety, from a late die state showing no damage whatsoever – the reverse on this example shows denticles completely around the rim.

Another example of this variety can be found in the Rosa Americana fixed price list #12. This coin is described as being over 28mm in diameter, one of the few times a

size has been ascribed to the larger sized planchet coin. This cataloguer comments on the description of the Stack's 1993 coin, and adds an interesting insight that perhaps the difference in the die states between 21-I and 21-II is that the dies had clashed on 21-II and were then reground or reworked before being used to strike V. 21-I-87D-I. He does not advocate the lack of a collar theory, but states, "An obviously different planchet stock was used on the V.21-I-87D-I's as well, perhaps a softer copper alloy, for the express purpose of prolonging the die life of this pair, after they had been ground down."

As if V.21-I-87D-I were not confusing enough, another rather puzzling element can be added to the equation, and that is that the variety does not always come on a spread planchet !!! This is not in reference to the other variety, V.21-II-87D-II, but to the late date die state of V.21-I-87D-I being struck on a smaller, normal sized planchet. At least two examples of V. 21-I-87D-I on smaller plans are known to exist, and there are probably many others as well. Two smaller sized planchets which appear in the late state of the dies are in the author's collection, and it is known that at least one resides in the collection of a well known eastern collector (see photos below).



21-87D
Detail showing for what is termed a "Spread Planchet"
for both normal and large sized planchets.

G. A. Trudgen
7/14/08

Possibly this is why no mention was made of the planchet size of the Montgomery example noted previously. That coin could have been in the late die state, but not on a

larger planchet. What the implications are for this added dimension are not known. All the previous observations could all hold true for these late die state, small planchet pieces. One thing that is for certain, V.21-I-87D-I cannot be characterized solely by the planchet size. It appears the distinguishing characteristic of the variety is the die state, *i.e.*, strongly struck centers and weakly struck peripheries.

In the 1993 Stack's sale, the cataloguer made the comment that, "more research is needed on the die emission sequences and states of Machin's mills coppers before questions like these can finally be answered," referring to the condition of V.21-I-87D-I. That is still the case, as can be seen in the description for lot 4439, in the Stack's Americana sale of January 2010. These comments appeared in that sale: "The 21-I-87D-I variety represents the late rare state of this die pairing struck on wide planchets or soft planchets that spread widely during striking, perhaps wholly, unrestrained by any collar. Given the consistency of the die state-planchet combination, this was probably a remarriage of the dies at a time wholly separate from the striking of early die state 21-II-87D-II pairing." This description is a pretty good compilation of everything that has been written about the variety to date. (It should be noted that this statement may be erroneous in that this particular coin did not spread much, and it is not on a particularly wide planchet; in fact, the planchet is quite small 27.9 x 28mm and is comparable in size to regular V.21-87D-II planchets.)

As to research on the die emission sequences, I know of only one informal study. This study was conducted by two of the foremost researchers in the field of Atlee halfpence (Mike Ringo and Gary Trudgen), and while inconclusive, demonstrates the complexity of the 21-87D die combinations. Study comments are immediately below, with the coins to which they refer shown on the following page.

Mike Ringo's Comments

Comments in Italics by Gary Trudgen

Ignoring planchet stock and preparation, I would make the following observations of these dies:

1,2 Same defect in field below REX *Agree*

2,3 Same legends (die appears to be lapped) *Appears but is it? If lapped 4 should show less detail than 1, but doesn't.*

3,4 Same bulge (sunken die)

A,D Both clashed, D is cracked *Agree*

B,C Same legends (die appears to be lapped)

Coin 1-A (Clem's piece) appears clearly to be the earliest die state of both obverse and reverse of these four examples. The apparent emission sequence of the four coins should be: 1-A, 4-D, 3-C (after lapping of both dies), and 2-B (after further lapping of the obverse die). One aspect has been bothering me: why are the defects in the field below REX on obverses 1 and 2 so similar? Can the same defect reappear after grinding the dies?

2 - Note radial flow of copper in effigy armor.



If this die sequence chosen by the researchers is correct, there is no way that the number four coin should end up looking like coin one. As one of the participants notes, the armor of the bust appears to be shrinking and then suddenly reappears in coin four. This is quite an amazing and baffling sequence! Perhaps a larger sampling of 21-D dies would provide critical data, and perhaps even an explanation to the mysteries surrounding this coin.

A Census of V.21.-87D-I varieties known to me is:

1. The Montgomery Sale, Bowers and Ruddy, February 20-22, 1976, Lot 1764. Graded AU. Acquired from Ted Craige.
2. Kessler/Spangenberg Sale, NASCA, April 28-29, 1981, Lot 2349. Graded EF.
3. The Albany Collection, 6th C4 sale, McCawley-Grellman, Nov. 18, 2000, Lot 84. 114.8 grains. Mike Ringo graded this coin Uncirculated. The cataloguer graded it AU.
4. Rosa Americana FPL, Spring 1997, Lot 384. Graded as bold EF. Not plated. The weight is given as 107.1 grains and 28+mm in diameter. Ex Rob Retz.
5. Stack's, Sept. 8-9, 1993, Lot 1137. Sharpness of EF, called possible CC. 118.4 grains, 28.7mm. Heavily clashed, obverse bow incused on reverse.
6. Stack's Americana Sale, Jan. 26-27, 2010, Lot 4439. VF20, 114.4 grains.
7. Third C4 Sale, McCawley-Grellman, November 8, 1997, Lot 120. 109.9 grains. Graded Good 6. "X scratched," perhaps a cancellation mark.
8. Plated in Will Nipper's book, *Yankee Doodles's Pocket*, p. 293. Distinguishing cracks etc.
9. Lower grade piece purchased on ebay. "Late dies states" yet on a small planchet that did not spread.
10. & 11 Two higher-grade coins in an Eastern Collection, graded EF and VF. One is on a large planchet while the other is on a small planchet that did not spread.

This paper was originally intended to cover all spread planchets varieties, yet due to time and space limitations the remaining varieties will have to be covered in another addition.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Several prominent numismatists in the field of colonial coinage have communicated to me that the Machin mint did not employ a collar. One remarked that if that were the case, we would see sharper edges on the coins.
- ² Old Bailey trial records, t17960914-86 and t17970712-51. What exactly is meant by "collar" in these references isn't exactly clear. In the first instance, it was stated, "that a candle was burning in the collar of the press; in the other instance, the collar is described as a crevice that they (halfpennies) are put into where they are not so handy to take them out instantly.
- ³ Q. David Bowers. "The Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins" 2009.
- ⁴ Kessler/Spangenberg sale, NASCA, April 28-29, 1981. Lot 2349.
- ⁵ Montgomery Collection, Bowers and Ruddy, Feb. 20-22, 1776. Lot 1764.

C4 Hosts Convention in Baltimore 2012

The 18th annual consecutive convention of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club, C4, was held at the Baltimore, Maryland Convention Center November 15-17, 2012, in conjunction with the Whitman Coins and Collectibles Expo. This was the first year the convention was not held in Boston since the mid-nineties and marks a historic beginning of a relationship with Stack's Bowers Galleries. According to Jim Rosen, President of C4, "This convention was one of the best we have ever had in terms of activity, attendance and auction." The convention included a large area on the bourse floor with a club informational table, exhibit area with four exhibits, and social area where new and established members could meet and converse.

The first co-sponsored auction held by C4 and Stack's Bowers was conducted Thursday and Friday evenings of the convention, including colonial currency as well as coins. It was clearly the best and largest auction C4 has ever had, with 990 lots sold. A number of very rare items crossed the block, including an historic Sommer Island Sixpence, New England Sixpence, one of just 8 known and one of just four that are not in museums, Willow Tree Shilling, Lord Baltimore Shilling, Higley Copper, the legendary Inimica Tyrannis American Copper, George Clinton Copper and Standish Barry Threepence.

C4 is a national, non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance the education and research of colonial related coins, currency and other numismatic material. The club publishes a quarterly, informative newsletter and holds an annual convention.

To learn more about the Colonial Coin Collectors Club, visit www.colonialcoins.org or e-mail RohrerC@cadmus.com.

1783 DATED COUNTERFEIT IRISH HALFPENCE: A NON-REGAL RESEARCH GROUP PROJECT

(Roger A. Moore, Charles Rohrer, and Rickie L. Rose)

INTRODUCTION:

Initial attention was brought to the British and Irish counterfeit halfpence of the 1700's by William Anton Jr. and Bruce Kesse.¹ Their work was further elaborated upon by Clem Schettino and Byron Weston with an attempt to categorize some of these diverse coinages into groupings, called Families.² Following these initial efforts, the defining of counterfeit halfpence into Families has made excellent progress, largely due to the influence of an internet based non-regal research group³ sharing images and data on their coins. Groupings of the large numbers of counterfeit halfpence into specific Families^{4, 5, 6, 7, 8} is based upon three primary features: 1) common dies being used for varieties within a Family, 2) common die punches being used for varieties within a Family, and 3) common stylistic elements used for members of a Family that indicate a common die sinker.⁹

During the 2011 Annual Convention of the Colonial Coin Collectors Club the Non-Regal session held on Friday November 12th had the preplanned objective of evaluating, photographing, and obtaining relevant data on all Irish Halfpence dated 1783. The 1783 dated Irish halfpence are enigmatic since no Regal Irish coins were supposed to have been struck with this date. However, of interest is that some early references indicate that Regal 1783 Irish halfpence were struck.¹⁰ Grueber indicated in 1899 that Irish halfpence were struck with the “*dates, 1766, 1769, 1775, 1776, and 1781-1783*” and “*the contract for this coinage was similar to those of the George II*” Irish halfpence.¹⁰ Grueber also indicates with an asterisk next to the coinage of George III that,

The coins issued for Ireland during this reign are of two classes, official and semi-official. The former comprise only copper pieces, pennies, halfpennies, and farthings: the latter are Bank tokens of various values in silver.

The implication is that some 1783 copper coins were officially struck. On the other hand later references do not list 1783 copper halfpence as an official coinage and most likely Grueber got it wrong. Seaby¹¹ indicates that,

New Irish coppers were minted at London in 1766 and 1769 and again in 1775-1776 and 1781 and 1782, but supplementing these were large quantities of light-weight counterfeits, manufactured mainly in Birmingham.

Interestingly, in the listing of the imitations the year 1783 is not listed but 1776 is listed. However, a note under George III “London Coinage, 1766-82” indicates – “*Counterfeits exist in most dates, including 1783, some being of quite good workmanship.*”

Clermont¹² also does not list the 1783 Irish halfpence as an official coin. Therefore, our present assumption is that all 1783 dated Irish halfpence are counterfeits. Jeff Rock has recently provided an excellent, in-depth look at all Irish Counterfeits with non-Regal dates, except for those coins dated 1776 and 1783.¹³ Rock's article arose from a previous Non-Regal research project at a Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) convention where everyone attending brought their coins in to be photographed and discussed. However, due to the large numbers of existing 1776 and 1783 Irish counterfeit halfpence, it was decided to delay the evaluation of these dates for a later C4 convention.

One objective for getting as many 1783 Irish halfpence together as possible for study was to bring some clarity concerning their production and possible common origin. However, from the more than 100 coins evaluated, it quickly became evident that it would be impossible to unite these very diverse coins into a common Family or origin. The initial approach taken by the authors was to divide these 1783 dated coppers into seemingly related groupings, with the objective that each grouping might eventually serve as a core from which a specific Family could evolve. However, when attempting to make such a demarcation into groups, it soon became evident that when it came to individual coins, it was impossible to place each coin into a defined and separate group. In other words, individual coins often displayed many stylistic similarities in any one of a number of groupings. Jack Howes had previously attempted to define the 1783 Irish counterfeits into four groupings that he called Group A - Yoda Heads, Group B - Normal Heads, Group C - Abnormal Heads or Big Lips, and Group D - No Group Assigned or miscellaneous.¹⁴ The authors' first attempt was to use the Howes classification, but this was abandoned due to the indicated difficulty in placing individual coins into a single group. The final decision was to make two large groupings. One group was called the Common Heads due to the large number of these coins with the same look to King George III. This group corresponds to what Howes called the Yoda Heads. The second group was simply called the "General" group and is definitely made up of coins with a diversity in styles and punches used to make the dies.

VARIETY CHARACTERISTICS:

Before providing a specific description of the two groupings, a word about the labeling of the coins needs to be made. Convention for labeling coins in a counterfeit Family dictates that obverses are numbered and reverses are lettered. Initially this was the plan for the 1783 Irish halfpence, but it soon became apparent that it was not a Family that we were dealing with but rather many Families that simply had varieties which included reverses having the 1783 date. In fact when looking at 1781 and 1782 Irish counterfeit halfpence, it was apparent that die sharing of obverses with the 1783 dated reverses occurred. Much work needs to be done to separate the Irish halfpence into Families but the authors of this paper felt that by putting a number label on all obverses and a letter label on all reverses, that the number-letter designations for a variety would only serve to confuse when the variety was finally placed in a real Family and received a real but different number-letter designation. In order to avoid this future confusion, each

die combination was given only a number. In the case of the Common Head group the numbers are from 1 to 22. For the General group, the numbers are 100 to 135. The reason for the large separation in numbering was that the authors felt many other new 1783 Counterfeit Irish halfpence will come to light over the years and adding them into the Common Head or General groups would be made easier by having extra available numbers to label the new coins.

The second general issue was how to place the coins in each group on the plate. For rapid identification purposes, one of the easiest methods was developed by Clem Schettino, called the Global Attribution System or GAS.¹⁵ Though this scheme has not been published, it has been referred to in other papers.⁶ Basically the system is to evaluate the position of King George III's nose in relationship to the legend. On the plate, the coins with the nose highest on the legend are plated first and as the nose position progressively falls, the coins are plated in order. This allows one to quickly assess where on a plate with many coins one should search. For the most part, this approach was taken for the 1783 dated Irish halfpence plates. However, since there is die sharing and some coins needed to be plated out of the GAS order with their shared dies, the GAS system could not be used exclusively. In other words, not all obverses are in order based on nose position on the plates in this paper.

COMMON HEAD PLATES 1 and 2: The Common Head grouping may well hold up as the 1783 dated portion of a Family of Irish Counterfeit halfpence, when evaluated in more depth. Certainly, both 1781 and 1782 counterfeit Irish halfpence exist that share the obverse dies used to make the 1783 coins. In the Common Head grouping a total of 17 obverses and 16 reverses were used to produce 22 varieties.

Obverses – There are 17 obverses known at this time. The look of King George III in all these coins is what allows their placement into a specific group. King George III has a youngish look with a receding chin. The letter punches are essentially the same with open “G”s, flat bottomed “I”s, bifurcated bottoms to the “X”s and “R”s, and essentially identical “V”s and “S”s. In fact the obverses are so similar that some pointers to allow distinguishing one from the other need to be suggested. One obverse can be told from another by using the GAS method as a first step and then looking at the distance between the letter “S” in GEORGIVS and the laurel leafs on the back of King George III's head. Another excellent distinguishing feature is the position of the ribbon point to the legend, under the bow at the back of King George III's neck.

Reverses – There are 16 reverses known at this time. In all reverses the harp has 9 strings and a similar look to the harp, though slight variations can be noted in the figure on the front of the harp and the crown over the harp. As with the obverses, there is consistency in the punches used to make the legend lettering and the date numbers.

GENERAL PLATES 1, 2, 3, and 4: The General group is made up of 32 obverses and 30 reverses producing 36 varieties. As with the Common Head group, many of the coins in this group share obverse dies with other dated counterfeits. However, unlike the

Common Head group, the many coins in this group are quite diverse and most likely will eventually be separated into many Families.

Obverses – All obverses have the same basic design with King George III facing right. However, the “look” of King George III varies greatly from a crude image with fat lips to extremely well made images. In evaluating the different King George III images one can begin to discern similarities that might group some together. For instance variety 110 and 126 show an extremely similar aspect to King George III, with a different but equally similar look to 119, 120 and 130. However, it is beyond the scope of this paper to sort out these groupings. There is also diversity in the letter punches with such differences seen as some ordinals having bifurcated units at the bottom and some flat. All this goes to show is that this large grouping is simply many Families mixed together which are united only by being wedded to a reverse with the 1783 date.

Reverses – Similar to the obverses, this is a diverse group. Though most of the harps have 9 strings there are exceptions such as variety 109 that has 10 strings. The figures on the front of the harp differ dramatically from quite crude to well made. As with the obverses the punches used to make the legends also differ significantly. In spite of minor variations, there is a consistency in the look of the crowns over the harp.

METROLOGY:

The most surprising finding for the authors was the large numbers of different Irish halfpence dated 1783. Most of us have been accumulating these coins with the idea that a relatively low finite number existed. The surprise was that in the some 140 coins evaluated that there were 58 varieties recognized. In addition within these 58 varieties some 42 of them are presently known with only one or two coins. What this means is there are most likely many more varieties still to be discovered.

COMMON HEAD GROUP CHART 1 – In Chart 1 is a breakdown of the data obtained for the 61 coins that were analyzed in the Common Head grouping, which is comprised of 22 varieties. One will note that the first number in the chart is the total number of coins known for that variety and is therefore a good indicator of present rarity. The coin number following the weight and diameter ranges indicates the number of coins actually measured for that specific piece of data. Though most of the coins were measured by the authors at the C4 meeting, some of the information was submitted by owners of the coins that could not attend the meeting. Therefore, there may be some variability in the accuracy of specific measurements. Generally speaking, there was wide variability in the weights of the planchets even within specific variety groupings. Weights varied from a low of 75 grains to a high of 136.8 grains. The average weight for all varieties combined was 101.1 grains. Planchet diameters showed much less variability with all coins being greater than 26 mm (the one variety 7 coin was discounted with a diameter of 25.6 since its edge had been hammered) and no coin had a diameter greater than 28 mm (the one coin of variety 21 which was 28.7 mm was discounted

because it was double struck). The average diameter for all coins in the Common Head grouping was 27 mm. All coins had a coin turn axis in this group. Eight of the 22 varieties are represented by a single coin.

GENERAL GROUP CHART 2 – Similar to the Common Head group, the same notations apply for reading the Chart 2. The variability for the General group in both weights and diameters is much greater than the Common Head group, as might be expected. There was wide variability in the weights of the planchets both generally and within specific variety groupings. Weights varied from a low of 74.7 grains to a whopping high of 196.4 grains. The latter coin was in variety 110 and was inspected by each of the authors. We all noted that in spite of its normal diameter of 27.3 mm, it was exceptionally thick. An additional coin in variety 101 was 175.2 grains. One wonders why these overly heavy planchets were used since the counterfeiters made their money with the use of underweight planchets. The average weight for all varieties combined was 109.2 grains. Planchet diameters showed much less variability but more so than the Common Head group with the smallest diameter being 26.5 mm and the largest being 28.8mm. In spite of this higher range of diameters, most of the coins fell in the mid 27 mm area for diameter. The average diameter for all coins in the General grouping was 27.4 mm. Unlike the Common Head group there were 6 varieties that did not have a coin turn axis. These will be discussed in the next section.

COMBINED GROUPS – Both groups comprised of a total of 142 coins, for these 1783 Irish halfpence, an average weight for all was calculated to be 105.6 grains (125 coins measured). The average diameter was 27.2 mm. (124 coins measured).

NON COIN TURN AXIS VARIETIES: (see Non-Coin Turn Plate)

As mentioned in the General group metrology section, six of the 36 varieties were struck with an axis different from 180 degrees or coin turn. These are shown in the plate of Non-Coin Turn 1783 Irish. Of interest and a limiting factor in discussing these oddities is that 4 of the 6 varieties are unique (109, 113, 121, and 124). Therefore, for these four coins, it is difficult to make any generalizations about how they were minted. We do know that most counterfeit halfpence of both British and Irish origin were struck coin turn. However, there are notable exceptions. With the Lanky Letters Family of counterfeit halfpence,⁴ there are specific varieties that are found with a medal struck axis and only medal struck axis, while all other varieties have only a coin struck axis. One can visualize that when the minter did a run of coins, he might have mistakenly placed one of the dies in the press rotated improperly, thereby causing all minted coins to have a medal turn axis. The lack of more than a single coin to analyze for each of the four varieties makes such a speculation difficult. However, for one variety (119) there are three coins known and all have a medal turn axis, which does support this speculation. Explaining a 90 degree axis is more difficult but could be explained by the minting apparatus having a square socket that received a square insert on the back of the die.

Therefore, the die could be misplaced in the socket by 90, 180 or 270 degrees. Only one of the three coins in variety 112 showed a non-coin turn axis and it was 90 degrees.

In looking at the six varieties with a non-coin turn axis, it would be interesting to ascribe all the coins to the same minting operation by similarity in style and punches. In essence this may be partially true since the four varieties - 109, 112, 113 and 119 - all have a very similar look to King George III. In fact, varieties 112 and 113 share the same obverse die. However, such similarities do not hold up for varieties 121 and 124. In any case the observation of a non-coin turn axis seemingly limited to only certain varieties is a fascinating finding.

MINT ERRORS: (see 1783 Irish Oddities plate)

Though there are no known die sinking errors with odd legends or reversed numbers and devices in the 1783 Irish halfpence varieties, there are many planchet preparation and minting errors found. In the comment section of each metrology chart prepared for the Common Head group and the General group, there are notations concerning the presence of clipped planchets, off center strikes, flip over double strikes (FODS), and double strikes. One can see that the minting techniques left much to be desired due to the relatively high error rate. A plate of oddities points out some representative errors.

The most common errors are off-center strikes, and of these, the one sided off-center strike is the most common. In the plate one can see that the first coin imaged has about a 10% offset strike on the obverse with a fairly well centered strike on the reverse. This means the minter had the upper and lower dies slightly misaligned, leading to a unilateral off-center strike. On the other hand the second coin shows a true off-center strike effecting both the obverse and reverse of the coin. In this case the planchet was most likely mal-positioned in the press between the dies. The third and fourth coins show typical double strikes where the first strike seems to be well centered but the planchet was not removed in time and the second strike occurred with the planchet still between the dies but off-center. The fifth coin is a flip over double strike where the coin was struck in an off-centered position and then either accidentally or purposely flipped over between the dies and struck again. One can read part of the obverse legend intertwined with HIBERNIA on the reverse. The final coin on the plate is a cast counterfeit. The variety of the cast cannot be distinguished but it is definitely an oddity since it is a cast counterfeit of a counterfeit. Its metrology was not included with the rest of the coins but its weight was 155.7 grains, diameter was 26.3 mm, and it was coin turn.

CONCLUSION:

The 1783 dated Irish halfpence are a very diverse group of coins that most likely make up the 1783 dated portion of many Families. The most surprising aspect of this survey was how many different varieties of the 1783 dated Irish halfpence exist. 58 different varieties are now recognized and many of these varieties are represented by a

single coin. The authors expect that there are many other varieties yet to be discovered as well as additions to existing varieties. One grouping with a similar King George III head – called the Common Head – may well represent many of the 1783 dated members of a single Family. However, the large General group is a catch-all for many Families that will need to be sorted out in the future.

Key observations for the Common Head group are a good consistency in the diameters of the planchets used to make the 22 varieties and a fair amount of variability in weight. For the General grouping there was even greater variability in diameters and weight. Both groups had numerous errors in planchet production (clips) and minting errors. Within the General group 6 varieties were found to have been struck with a non-coin turn axis. One of these varieties contains three known coins, and are all struck in medal turn.

A great deal more work needs to be done in categorizing all the Families that are represented in the 1783 coins. There is die sharing of obverses of the 1783 Irish halfpence with both 1781 and 1782 dated coins. The authors would be interested in having images and data on other 1783 dated halfpence sent to them at: rogermoore345@yahoo.com.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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COMMON HEAD 1783 COUNTERFEIT IRISH

VARIETY	# COINS	AXIS	WT. AVG.	WT. RANGE	WT. # COINS	DIA. AVG.	DIA. RANGE	DIA. # COINS	COMMENTS
1	2	C	97.2	90.7-104.2	2	27.2	26.6-27.7	2	ONE FOD5, ONE HOLED
2	5	C	100.6	81.2-115.9	5	26.8	26.1-28	5	ONE CLIPPED
3	2	C	87	80.9-93	2	27.1	27-27.1	2	
4	4	C	85.2	80.8-106.7	4	27.1	26.5-27.4	4	
5	1	C	84.5		1	26.6		1	
6	3	C	92.4	75.3-105.8	3	26.7	26.5-27	3	
7	7	C	103.5	90.3-126.3	5	26.8	26.5-27	4	ONE HAMMERED NOT USED
8	1	C	120.1		1	27.2		1	
9	6	C	106.7	99-112.1	6	26.9	26.6-27.2	6	
10	1	C	83		1	27		1	
11	4	C	90.5	75-108.1	4	26.9	26.7-27.1	4	ONE CLIPPED
12	1	C	106.9		1	26.5		1	SHEAR CLIP
13	2	C	98.5	90.8-106.1	2	27	26.8-27.1	2	BOTH OFF CENTER
14	4	C	107.2	104.9-113	4	27	26.5-27.2	4	
15	4	C	113.7	106.8-121.9	3	27.5	27.3-27.6	3	TWO CLIPPED
16	1	C	104.5		1	27.3		1	SHEARED
17	6	C	99.8	91.2-105	4	27.2	27-27.4	4	ONE CLIPPED
18	2	C	107.8	98-117.5	2	27	26.5-27.3	2	SMALLER ONE SPOONED
19	1	C	124.2		1	27.8		1	
20	1	C	80.2		1	27		1	CLIPPED
21	2	C	128.7	120.6-136.8	2	28.3	27.8-28.7	2	ONE DOUBLE STRUCK
22	1	C	96.9		1	27.1		1	OFF CENTER
TOTAL	61	C	101.1	75-136.8	56	27	26.5-28	55	

CHART 1

C

GENERAL 1783 COUNTERFEIT IRISH

# COINS	AXIS	WT. AVG.	WT. RANGE	Wt. # COINS	DIA. AVG.	DIA. RANGE	DIA. # COINS	COMMENTS
1	C	79.4		1	27.2		1	
4	C	144	118.8-172.5	3	28.1	27.6-28.8	3	ONE OFF CENTER
4	C	107	101.4-111.6	4	27.5	27.2-27.6	4	
1	C	106.2		1	27.6		1	
2	C	91.6		1	27		1	
3	C	103.4	89.3-110.8	3	27.6	27.5-27.7	3	
2	C	103.6	79.1-128.1	2	27.5	27.2-27.7	2	
1	C	122.9		1	27.6		1	
2	C	109.8	107.7-111.8	2	27.3	27.2-27.4	2	
1	M	118.8		1	27.6		1	
5	C	133	95.9-196.4	5	27.3	27.2-27.5	5	ONE EXTREMELY THICK
2	C	99.7	94.7-104.7	2	28.2	28-28.4	2	
3	MIX	110.1	104.4-115.8	2	27.2	26.8-27.5	2	ONE 90 DEGREES, TWO C
1	M	133		1	27.5		1	30 DEGREES OFF Medal TURN
1	C	117		1	27.7		1	
6	C	101.2	89.7-112.9	4	27.1	26.3-27.8	4	TWO OFF CENTER, ONE DS
1	C	114.2		1	27		1	
2	C	104.5		1	27.5		1	ONE OFF CENTER
1	C	113.2		1	27.2		1	
3	M	108.4	97.1-129.2	3	28	27.8-28.3	3	
2	C	87	84.9-89.1	2	26.8	26.7-26.8	2	ONE CLIP; ONE OFF CENTER
1	M	114.6		1	27.6		1	
1	C	78.4		1	26.7		1	
1	C	113.6		1	27.4		1	OFF CENTER
1	M	119.1		1	26.9		1	90 DEGREE AXIS
4	C	89.5	74.5-105.1	4	26.9	26.5-27.6	4	TWO OFF CENTER
1	C	114.4		1	27.4		1	OFF CENTER
1	C	110.5		1	27.2		1	
1								NO INFORMATION
13	C	108.8	86.4-132.7	9	27.3	26.9-27.7	9	ONE CLIPPED; 3 OFF CENTER
1	C	114		1	27.1		1	
1	C	112.2		1	27.6		1	OFF CENTER
2	C	107	104-109.9	2	27.8	27.6-27.9	2	TWO OFF CENTER
1	C	100.2		1	26.9		1	CLIPPED
1	C	104.1		1	27.5		1	OFF CENTER
3	C	111.5	107.6-115.4	2	27	26.5-27.4	2	2 CLIPPED, 1 OFF CENTER
81	VARIED	109.2	74.7-196.4	69	27.4	26.3-28.8	69	

CHART 2

1783 IRISH COMMON HEAD - 1



Moore 10 19 2012

1783 IRISH COMMON HEAD - 2



Moore 10 11 2012

1783 IRISH – GENERAL 1



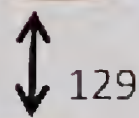
MOORE 10 19 2012

1783 IRISH – GENERAL 2



Moore 10 7 2012

1783 IRISH – GENERAL 3



Moore 10-7-2012

1783 IRISH – GENERAL 4



134



135

NON-COIN TURN 1783 IRISH



VARIETY 109 – MEDAL TURN



VARIETY 112 – 90 DEGREE TURN



VARIETY 113 – 30 DEGREE TURN



VARIETY 119 - MEDAL TURN



VARIETY 121 – MEDAL TURN



VARIETY 124 – 90 DEGREE TURN



1783 IRISH ODDITIES



ONE SIDED OFF CENTER STRIKE



TWO SIDED OFF CENTER STRIKE



DOUBLE STRIKE



DOUBLE STRIKE



FLIP OVER DOUBLE STRIKE



CAST



ABEL BUEL's LETTER HOME

(Peter Griffin)

My mother lives in Killingworth, Connecticut, which is the birthplace of Abel Buel. Among other accomplishments, Abel Buel was a partner in the enterprise that minted most of the coins in the Connecticut series.

On a recent visit to see my mother, I decided to visit the Clinton Historical Society. In 1838, Killingworth was divided into two halves. The more populous southern half became the town of Clinton, while the northern half remained Killingworth. The Buels, for the most part, lived in the southern half, so the present-day Clinton Historical Society seemed like a better place to look for information regarding that family.

I had contacted the society ahead of time and told them I was interested in learning about Abel Buel and any connection he had the business of minting coins. The curator, named Ann Carlson, was extremely helpful. The society's entire collection is indexed and well organized, and the entire place has the feel of a well-used and well-loved community resource.

While I was there I reviewed family genealogies, legal papers, and a slew of secondary sources, such as books and newspaper articles mentioning the Buels. About a half hour into my visit, Ann stopped short as if she had suddenly remembered something, and said, "Oh. I suppose I should show you the letter."

"The letter," reproduced below, is a letter in Abel Buel's hand, written to his wife in 1791. The letter was sent from England, at a time when Buel was researching how to bring textile manufacturing technology to America. The letter post-dates his involvement with the coin enterprise, but the letter mentions several acquaintances of his who were also involved in coin making, namely James Jarvis, Jeremiah Platt, and Samuel Broome.

A copy of the letter was provided to the Clinton Historical Society by a man named John Franklin Blunt. Mr. Blunt retains the original letter. I spoke with Mr. Blunt to get permission to reprint his letter in this publication. He explained he is a descendent of Benjamin Franklin's brother, and he said that the letter was found in the possessions of his mother when she passed away. Mr. Blunt believes the letter may have found its way into his family papers because Benjamin Franklin had a role in designing the Fugio cents, and he thinks it is likely that Benjamin Franklin knew Able Buel.

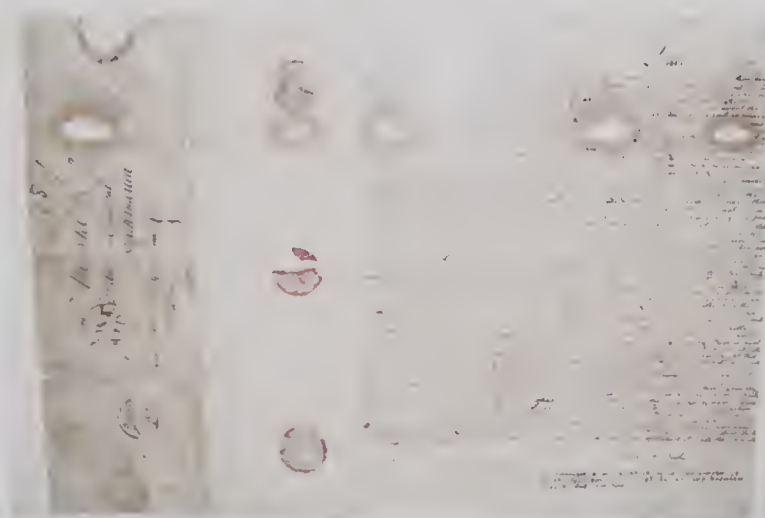
Mr. Blunt provided the Clinton Historical Society with the copy of the letter below, as well as his transcription of the letter, and with an attempt to decipher the coded portion of the letter at the bottom. Mr. Blunt explained to me that the missing parts of the letter are the spots where red sealing wax was used to originally seal the letter.

Part of the fun of publishing this letter is to let others draw conclusions as to its meaning. I know there are others in our club who have spent more time studying Buel,

but as a student of the Connecticut series, a few things about the letter stand out to me.

First, Able Buel spelled his name with only one “l”, instead of the two “l”s most often seen today. Second, in 1791 it sounds like he had three grown children – William, Polly (Mary?), and Benjamin – and more than one minor children, one of whom was named Sally. Third, by 1791, Buel seems disillusioned with James Jarvis, but is continuing to do business with Broome and Platt, all of whom had a role in the coining business. Fourth, there is someone named John who knows Broome and is looking for Buel. Fifth, he received a wound to his leg at some point. And sixth, consistent with his historical reputation, Buel comes off as a sweet-talking schemer who is always promising the moon, while trying to stay one step ahead of the debt collector.

I hope others out there enjoy this letter as much as I have. If any of you have more insight into the meaning or implications of this letter, please write a short blurb for the newsletter, or post it in the online forum.



OVERVIEW OF LETTER



FRONT OF FOLDED ENVELOPE

[illegible]

BLOWUP OF LETTER – ONE of TWO

[illegible]

Dear Mr. P. as yours is ready. A. P. Phelps

Misses M. & M. F. F. F.

File is in the Talmon to male P. 1. 1.

$\sqrt{2} \times 10^{-10}$ m • 0.5×10^{-10} m • 0.2×10^{-10} m
 0.1×10^{-10} m • 0.05×10^{-10} m • 0.02×10^{-10} m
 0.01×10^{-10} m • 0.005×10^{-10} m • 0.002×10^{-10} m

1. H...k near London January 2, 1791

[Transcript of 1791 Abel Buel letter]

CHS #
21 250

London January 2 1791

Dr. Mrs Buel

It now draws near the time of my Imbarkation as I expect within Thirty days to leave England for my country and dear family. Really I have ben at my wits end for somdays whether to hazerd a voige in this Boistros Season of the year or not. I Should be more easy did I know that you had Receiv any Money from Mr. Blag or for the bill of Twenty pounds Sterling drawn on Mr. Broome and for fear you should be disopointed I sent you Four guineas about the middle of Decr. with a promis to send you another small sum by the next ship for New York if any sale before I left London, the 4 guineas was Enclosed to the care of Mr. Jeremiah Platt in New York and if is not lost, you must have got it, no feteague & Imbar..... have in trying to do sumthing for our future I have ever had a di..... flattering but like the Sea had & Flowing sumtimes I myself for holding out to you such flattery, as I did, when things I so ardently wished for was at such distance, and Even now what may happen in the hands of Providence to baffle all our wishes and Expectations is uncertain since I may be taken away and have a dangerous voige to Incounter but as I have several times lately wrot you in such certain manners you cannot but expect something is going well, - give me leave once more to tell you, and I do in truth tell you I am more fortainate then I ever expected, and it is now past mear proposals My Businefs is fixed and Bonded, I have such dockaments & obligations now in my pofsession that Renders it cartain if I live to Reti__ that at Five different Perods within Fifteen months I must and am to be sopplied with more than Twnty Five thousand Dollars and on such general and genorios Plan that I do not see in the common Dispencutions of Providence how it can fail us, I am as particular with you as prudence dictates and hope soon to tell you all in a more pleasing way, the great sumthing that my mind has been so long Impresed with, seams at last to have made its apperance, I hope not to disapoint and sink us yet lower in the gulf of dispair, I tremble becaus it is so much greator then I had the most distant Idea of. I now often think and often Read a kind of Reluctant Submifsion in a letter I Receiv'd from you. You say if it must be so you hope it is all for the best. I afsure you that _____ in your letter has as often destresed me as pleased through fear of what might happen but I commend you for that Resignation it is the Best balm we can apply in greif & trouble the whol transaction of this long voige is like a dream but I afsure you my dear Beirea it has so happend by a sort of _____ without any posable means to avoid it, & had I left Europe but three months since I must have Returnd to a destrefsed wife and family with nothing but a little _____ emty Experance and Empty Pockets, I hope your Embarised Situation will not so deprefs your spirets but they may be again Roused into their former Sereanity it often happens that a time of hard fortun may lead at last to Experience sum good. I Pitty my dear little ones god help them what must they think and say of a father who _____ desarts them those which are grown up can do for them selves. Except poor Sally I often think of her hard fate at that age not to have any to lift her forward in a _____ manner I hope she will not through herself away. I am determend if things go well with me to make sumthing of her better then the poor girl may now expect. I have not heard a word from William or polly since I have ben in Europe nor from Benj. since he went to the South. I fear he is dead. I think from Mr. Broomes acont that John was at his house to Inquire after me Mr. Broome tells me he saw you and conversed with you for sum time I asked him a thousand Questions but coud not larn any thing particular Except that he beleivd you did not know how to get allong and that he was convinced that Jarvis had not don much for you and now I know him I coud not expect it. I am in good helth, and the wound I Receivd in my leg is perfectly well, I have made it my constant practace to live Regular and Prudent that I might not Empair my helth and constitution as I hinted in sum of my last letter that you coud have the Small Pox Saposing you had money to do as you pleased but let that profession be till I com We will do well anuf about it. I hope if any friend of yours happens to see my letters they will be so prudant as to keep the contents to themselves and althow they will not know my Businefs by what I have wrote their may be sumthing which might Anger if my Enemys had it, and it is for your satesfaction that I have so far given a detail of my affairs. How is the good _____ father, & mother, Mr Chittendon, Brothers & Sisters if they are alive Remember me to them. I should have sint you more money when I sint the 4 guineas but I was 3 or four miles from my lodging, and the ship going that Minute & I had no more about me. I still hope doctr Cragia has Paid the bill drawn on Mr Broom as Mr Parker the drawer wrote doctr Cragia to pay it in care of Mr. Broome _____ if it is not paid take good care of the bill it is all the Serenity I have or can have for the money.

I am My Dear yours Sincerely. A. Buel

Remember me to all the family
This Letter is sent in the Falmouth male packet

[Code Message here]

Southwark near London. January 2 1791

ABEL BUELL CRYPTOGRAM at bottom of 1791 letter to his wife.

--Translation by Phillip Ross Hayden for Clinton Historical Society, September 2011

abc defghcgg f jk fkl2mnco ?h fg pj2pe2jaco am fkl2mn pmhgacha2n abc hmkdcq mr
asm behoqco gcechan gft bjhog

The Buisness I am imployed ?n is calculated to imploy constently the nomber of two
hundred seventy six hands

Some Abel Buell Facts from

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~silversmiths/makers/silversmiths/12130.htm>

Born: 1 February 1742 in Killingworth, CT

Married: (1) Mary Chittenden in 1761
(2) Aletta Devoe on 8 March 1771 in New Haven, CT

Died: 1822 in New Haven, CT

His hallmark used on silver:



TO EVERYTHING, TURN, TURN. . . .

(Jeff Rock)

The 2012 C4 Convention is now history – in many ways. This year's Baltimore show was the first one away from Boston in 15 years and may (or may not) be the only one in Baltimore. The auction, conducted by Stack's Bowers was the first one that was conducted as a public auction, and the sheer number of lots in the sale was about triple the size of the normal C4 private auction offering (and the ENTIRE value of a typical C4 sale was surpassed by the time the second lot hammered down in this year's event!). While some of the C4 auctions of past years did go late, none were anywhere close to the near-3 a.m. finish of the 2012 event (and that was without a single break!).

But there's also a personal history with every C4 show, and this one was a little closer to home for this writer since the auction featured the Rob Retz collection of Fugio coppers. Rob was a very dear friend and a man who is still held in high esteem by those who knew him. When he passed away in 2004, far too early, he left behind family, friends, a first-rate collection and some unfinished work in the form of a book that has not yet been published. As is usually the case in life, none of those threads were ever too distinct from each other – the family and friends stayed in touch, the family held on to the collection and avenues were explored for the publication of the finished book.

Life has a way of moving on, even amidst loss. An article in last year's *C4 Newsletter* described how his two daughters both got married a few years after Rob passed away, but found creative ways to have Rob's presence at their wedding – through the very coins that Rob collected! Early in 2012 the Retz family decided it was time to start getting Rob's collection and library back out to the collecting fraternity. There were no collectors in the family and while having all that "stuff" around was comforting for a while, eventually the time came to pass things on to other collectors who could appreciate and care for them in the future.

A section of Rob's working library was consigned to Charles Davis for auction earlier this year – a good choice since Charlie has been a fixture at the C4 Conventions and many of the books in Rob's library were actually bought from him at those same shows! As any spouse of a true collector can attest, the sheer number of books that one amasses while collecting boggles the mind – and the books seem to multiply on the shelves once the lights are out!

The decision to sell the coin collection was a little more difficult – but when the decision was made, the "when" and "where" parts were easy! Rob was in C4 from the beginning, and it only made sense to sell it in that venue if possible – and the stars aligned when it was announced that Stack's Bowers would be holding this year's sale, which opened up the sale not just to collectors who were members of the club, but to tens of thousands of additional collectors and dealers around the world.

A few minor negotiations were made and the collection was soon on its way to Stacks Bowers for photography and cataloguing. One stipulation that was made was that the cataloguing work would be done by John Kraljevich – for a variety of reasons, not least of which was because he is probably the foremost cataloguer of Fugio coppers working today.

with data and expertise at his fingertips, but also because he was a friend of Rob's. Q. David Bowers said that he would write an introduction to the section – and to also get a few words from Eric P. Newman, 101 years young, who also knew Rob. An unexpected addition was having Stacks Bowers reprint this author's article from the Winter, 2011 issue of *The C4 Newsletter* in its entirety which may have introduced Rob to some people who never knew him.

When the catalogue finally arrived in the mail, the first thing I said was "WOW." With nearly 1000 lots in the sale there were a LOT of coins available, and with the sale of the Jack Royse and the first part of the Ted Craige collections, collectors were treated to a lot of GREAT coins, many of which had been off the market for several decades or more. When I heard what was in the sale I worried that Rob's collection might suffer – there are only so many hours a cataloguer can work on a consignment, and when a lot of great things come in at once, the quality of cataloguing could suffer just from time and energy constraints. But no worries there at all – the cataloguing of the major collections were all great, and the photography was amongst the best I've seen in any Stacks Bowers sale (which is saying something, since they have the best photography of any American numismatic firm). But it was the cataloguing of Rob's collection that really stands out. John Kraljevich had access to Rob's unpublished manuscript, which was judiciously incorporated into the text, but there was more than just raw data at work here – the text was done by someone who KNEW the series and who APPRECIATED the goals the collector had as well as the collection that was formed, and it shined through in the prose, and excited buyers who got an idea just how special the coins were even if only a couple of them had claims to "Finest Known" honors. This was truly a sale for collectors and specialists, not investors or those forming Registry Sets.

The Retz family – Rob's widow Margaret, their two daughters Nicole and Angela and their respective husbands Sean Callaghan and Eric Williams all came out for the auction and the convention. It was an honor to walk them around the bourse floor and introduce them to people who knew Rob – including one dealer who actually teared up a bit when he finally met the family. Another dealer-collector had extensive e-mail contact with Rob (who was always willing to freely share information), but never got the chance to meet him in person, and his telling the family how important Rob was to his formative collecting years really touched them all. The night of the auction had the family in attendance for a bit at the beginning of the sale, in time to hear a very touching tribute by C4 Newsletter Editor (and new ANS President) Syd Martin. Rob's Fugio collection was over 750 lots into the auction, so the family went to have dinner while the rest of us sat trying to snag the rare bargain in the sale to that point. After the first half of the auction, a lot of people started drifting out – it was close to midnight by this time – and part of me wondered if that would affect the prices for his collection.

But, again, not to worry – shortly before the Fugios came up a lot of people came back into the room, and the Retz family watched in amazement as bidding wars erupted over his material – things opening for a few hundred dollars quickly getting into the thousands of dollars, bid activity occasionally stalling and then roaring back with a flurry of additional paddles in the air...the usual things for those of us who attend a fair number of auctions, but a rare sight indeed for people who have not. In the end, the coins did extremely well – well above the initial appraisal value and a bit more than the estimated values done right before the sale itself. Many of the coins sold directly to collectors (though dealers did pick up some

material as well), and a number of those coins went to friends of Rob – a more fitting home would be hard to imagine. When the hammer fell on the last of the Retz coins, the room burst into applause. Once again, choice material, off the market for years, part of a popular series, in the right auction venue, with the right cataloguing, all combined to get bidders interested (and to keep their bid cards up!).

The Retz family was, needless to say, awed and very appreciative of the outpouring of kindness shown to them. Christine Karstedt at Stacks Bowers bent over backwards to make sure the family got what they needed, and everyone who contributed to the catalogue itself did an amazing job – a most auspicious beginning for a new collaboration between C4 and the Stacks Bowers firm. More than one collector came up to me after the sale and said something along the lines of “when I’m gone that is EXACTLY how I want my collection to be sold.” What really stands out for me was the care and catalogue space that were given to this collection – which, in total, realized about half of what a single lot sold for early in the sale (the 1652 New England Sixpence) and about equal to what the George Clinton cent sold for just a bit later. Some auction firms would say something like “eh, a low 6-figure collection? Can’t be bothered doing too much work – send them out for slabbing and that’s it, get them all onto one page of text with a few pictures of the better coins.” But when a firm has the long numismatic history of the Stack family and the various Q. David Bowers firms behind it, you know that their interest in the actual coins is what drives them to excel in how they are offered.

The day after the sale I was honored to join the Retz family for dinner in Baltimore. Rob’s last trip was to go to New York for the sale of the John Ford collection of Fugio coppers, the last major old-time collection that he did not have information on. Even though his cancer diagnosis had already been made and he was a bit weak from the chemotherapy treatments he endured, he still made his pilgrimage to the sale and was in good spirits the whole time. After the auction his family and I headed out to the oldest steakhouse in New York (fittingly right in the meatpacking district, which had not yet been gentrified and made trendy, so the steaks literally came from a block or two away!), where we ate, drank, talked and laughed, all the while knowing this was going to be the last time we were all together with Rob. The Baltimore dinner was, fittingly, also at a steakhouse, and wine glasses were raised in a toast to the husband, father, friend who we all thought was looking down and smiling at us – knowing that we’ve come full circle in terms of coins, but that memories remain and friendships endure.



The Retz Family and the author, celebrating the dispersal of the Rob Retz collection at auction, Baltimore, November, 2012

C4 CONVENTION REPORT, BALTIMORE 2012

C4 held its Annual Convention in Baltimore during November 15th-18th. This was a first for us as we have permanently moved away from New England and have developed a relationship with Stack's Bowers. By any standards this was a very successful convention. We were braced for bumps in the road but surprisingly there were very few and I'm sure those few were not noticed by the members. Our convention schedule was a bit different than years past, but was similar in format. Under the directorship of Dennis Wierzba, our convention chairman, we began our convention with a Social Hour Thursday evening, followed next by our donated lots auction, which is a valuable fund raiser for our club for all proceeds go to the club. I want to publically thank those who donated lots and also those who purchased them as this event is extremely important in helping us fulfill our mission of enhancing colonial education and research. Following the auction, there were four educational discussions organized by Jeff Lipsky, our Educational Chairman. Our first presentation was by Buell Ish, VP Region 7 and Jack Howes, National Vice President. Their discussion was extremely informative and was on the forthcoming comprehensive book on New Jersey Coppers. This book is at the editing phase and should be out soon. Stay tuned and check our website. The second discussion was by Jack Howes and myself and revolved around the so-called "Ryder-40." Next, I discussed the origins of the Continental Currency Coinage. A lively discussion followed both Jack and my presentations and I'm sure all participants found this discussion quite provocative. The last talk of the evening was by John Kraljevich, who gave a talk based upon one prepared by Jim Jones, who passed away recently. This talk was on the Comitia Americana Medals. Throughout the convention, lectures were given by Will Nipper on "The History of Colonial American Told Through its Coinage" and Ray Williams who spoke twice on "Collecting Colonial Currency" and "Collecting State Copper Coinage of 1785-1788."

During the convention, there was a constant buzz in our bourse section, which this year was expanded in size to accommodate an exhibit area, more club tables and (new this year), a social area, where we had a running slide show of colonial coins.

Thursday night saw an auction of Colonial Paper money which has not graced our catalogues ever! Friday night is what we all waited for, the 990 lot colonial coin auction, co-sponsored by C4 and Stack's Bowers. As you all received the catalogue, I will not reiterate its contents but what an auction it was, with an incredible array of rarities. It went on so long that food was served twice with the last lot hammered ~3:15am, although yours truly was comatose by that time. This was the first time our auction was open to the public with phone and internet bidding.

Friday morning was our Publications Committee meeting. As you know, our club has published five books on colonial coins, many of which are the standard book on that series. In addition, a new book on New Jersey Coppers is being co-published by C4 and the ANS and will be out hopefully by the third quarter of 2013. Saturday morning we had our Board and Business meetings.

The club has produced with the generous assistance of Randy Clark, Ray Williams and Gary Trudgen the C4 Newsletters on DVD. This DVD is searchable and covers all *Newsletters* from the beginning of our club to the present. Updates will be produced ~every two years. Please contact Jim Rosen for more information on how to obtain these DVDs.

This convention was in a word...wonderful and I am almost 100% sure that we will return to Baltimore next year. I would be remiss if I did not thank publically those individuals who made this all happen. First and foremost is Dennis Wierzba, our Bourse Chairman, who gave so much of his time and energy to make this happen. Jack Howes, our Vice-President, produced the Convention Brochure with the assistance of Ray Williams, and he also organized the donated lots auction, produced the slide show of colonials and has been my constant advisor throughout this whole process. Charlie Rohrer, our treasurer, has been invaluable to me and to our club. Frank Steimle, my facts checker and Secretary, keeps the ongoing history of our club thru notes. Syd Martin and Roger Siboni, respectively our Editor and Associate Editor of the *Newsletter*, have produced a newsletter that won second price in club newsletters given by the ANA. Leo Shane, our Librarian, is keeper of the "books" and also significant advisor to me. Will Nipper did a nice job organizing this year's exhibits, and Jeff Lipsky, who did an excellent job as Educational Chairman, was brought in to replace the long time Educational Program Chairman, Mike Packard. David Menchell, our Publications Chairman, is keeping our stream of books going and at the same time, doubling as a Regional VP and master wood worker and donor. In addition, he has exhibited at all of our conventions without repeating an exhibit – quite a feat! Stan Stephens, our webmaster, has done an excellent job coordinating all aspects of the website; now after years of searching, we have found an assistant for him. All the Regional VPs have all been invaluable to me as I guide our club to meet its mission. And last but never least, Ray Williams, who I think is busier now than he was as President. He is truly my right hand man, and someone who gives so much of his time and energy to this club. And for those who I may have left out, I thank you and the club thanks all of you. The reason that I am thanking all of these individuals at this time is that the conversion from Boston to Baltimore was not as easy as it seemed and all these people did a great job in making this transition as seamless as possible. They deserve rightful thanks.

Till next year's Convention, stay well, and be happy. Hopefully I'll see you all in Baltimore.

Jim Rosen

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Just back from Baltimore and a few hours of getting reacquainted with my recliner. I had a blast! Where to start... I guess at the beginning. I drove to Baltimore Thursday a.m. and entered the convention early with the dealers, to set up the C4 Area. Jim Rosen and Jack Howes had beaten me there! We had a very nice area with 4 tables to congregate, 5 exhibit cases and located right next to the auction lot viewing areas - a perfect location. There was always a small crowd in the C4 area.

Will Nipper was in charge of C4 Exhibits this year and we had three on display. David Menchell had a beautiful two-case exhibit of Franklin Material. I've always loved the Nini portraits - someday I'll need to get one! Will Nipper had a two-case exhibit of Nova Constellatio coppers, with all the varieties on display. Both of these exhibits looked like they were professionally done. The third exhibit was a one-case display of colonial bills. It had a Continental Currency piece and a bill from each of the 13 colonies. It was simple and the material told the story.

Jeff Lipsky was in charge of C4 Educational program, and had a wonderful lineup. As always, there is something that doesn't go according to plan... A couple days before the convention we discovered our featured speaker, Harvey Stack, was unable to attend due to family issues. But in his place, Jim Rosen gave a presentation on the Continental Dollar and Jack Howes gave a presentation on the "Ryder 40" Vermont. Both were well received. These presentations were followed by the scheduled talks. Jack Howes and Buell Ish talked on the long awaited NJ Copper Magnum Opus. Their powerpoint presentation was very informative and I can't wait for the book! Jim Jones was to give a presentation at a past C4 Convention but had passed away a month or so before. His family had the presentation in powerpoint and, in his memory, John Kraljevich presented it to the members as our final talk. Now, those that know John also know he can make a Lincoln cent sound interesting! Just imagine what he did with this Comitia Americana talk!

Being that we had just one night (instead of the two we had in the past) for both the C4 Reception and our Educational Forum, both events were held in the same room in the Sheraton Hotel. It was just the right size and I personally thought the food was better than Boston. There was also a C4 member who anonymously (and secretly) purchased another jumbo shrimp platter for the evening. Thank You!!!

Dennis Wierzba has been our Convention Chairman for 18 years, and did an outstanding job organizing this event in a totally new venue. Everything seemed to run like clockwork! The C4 Auction was a part of the Friday night Stack's Bowers Auction. It started at 6:00pm and lasted until about 3:15am Eastern Time! I didn't last that long! I stayed through the end of the Rob Retz Fugios and left with Craig McDonald to walk back to the Hotel about 1:45am. I did get a couple of Rob's Fugios for my collection. Our thanks to Jim Rosen and the Stack's Bowers people for making this happen. The people at Stack's Bowers, and at Whitman, were just the nicest people to work with. Jim and Dennis can tell you.

Being that we were at a convention attended by thousands of collectors, C4 arranged to have three educational presentations at the convention for the general public (and C4 people too). The first one was supposed to be Roger Siboni talking on "The History of Colonial America Told Through Its Coinage." As many know, Roger was affected by Hurricane Sandy and was very disappointed not to be able to attend. Will Nipper stepped up to the plate and gave a presentation using the same title. Will's talk was well done and well attended too. It was video taped and hopefully a copy will be in the C4 Library in a month or two. I gave two talks geared for the general public, one on

collecting colonial paper money and the other on collecting the state copper coinages. I hope that both talks were as fun for the attendees as they were for me.

Both Buell's wife (Angie) and my wife (Diane) arrived on Friday. The four of us had a very nice dinner at Bubba Gumps on Saturday night. Jack Howes joined us and we had so much fun talking that we didn't even notice how slow the service was. The four of us again met for breakfast the next morning, where we parted company until...

I can't say enough about Jim Rosen and his part in moving C4 to the Whitman EXPO in Baltimore. The membership doesn't see what goes on behind the scene, and I only see a little. Jack Howes was with Jim every step of the way, and was also responsible for providing the C4 Program for this convention. Working with them was Dennis Wierzba and all of our C4 Board. You all have some good people placed in office, and I can say that from knowing them all personally and having worked with them in the past.

Lastly, it was fun to see some people that I haven't seen for some time (Mitch M among others), finally meeting the ex-Canadian Paul Cartmill, and spending a little time with the Retz family. The Retz women are just the nicest people. I said goodbye to them, knowing that we may never meet again.

Ray Williams



Our C4 Table, Display, and Social Area Within on the Bourse Floor



Ray Presents



Will Presents



Jim Introduces the C4/
Stack's-Bowers Auction



Syd's Tribute to Rob Retz – at the Auction



Stan Gives Status of Webpage



Mike Introduces Educational Programs
– Buell and Jack Stand Ready



Jim and Dan Start the Donated
Lot Auction



John Presents

Paul Cartmill photos.

2012 FOURTH QUARTER COLONIAL COINS MARKET REPORT

(John Kraljevich)

Colonial coin enthusiasts are an acquisitive bunch. We like buying stuff. Most collectors have a specialty, but tend to be picky enough about their specialty that they have to collect something on the side: a New Jersey copper specialist will also have a little collection of Spanish-American cobs, a high grade type collector will also assemble a Thirteen Colonies colonial currency set, a non-regal halfpenny enthusiast will deign to buy real halfpence on occasion. The reason for this phenomenon is simple and constant: there just isn't enough high end material to keep most collectors buying coins as often as they would like. We collect because we like the rush of finding something, pulling the trigger, and taking it home to play with. It's why even our most finicky friends spend time on eBay with a drink in hand buying things that later make them wonder why.

Once they reach a certain level of experience and selectiveness, most colonial collectors are pretty happy if they add a couple of good coins to their cabinet a year. Some guys might be thrilled with one.

Punctuating those years, the ones with a small handful of highlight coins and a pile of purchases inspired by the twin monsters Boredom and Curiosity, are the years with an "Auction Event". While nice colonial sales happen almost every year (or at least they have since Stack's introduced the concept of an annual Americana sale in 1997), auction events are usually a few years apart. Auction Events are, like Prince and Madonna, known by one-word monikers: Garrett, Roper, Norweb, Taylor, Steinberg, Ford, etc. The Ford sales, more than a dozen of which included colonial-oriented material, were the greatest auction event of the contemporary generation, a series of offerings that seemingly kept us all fascinated and a little broke.

Because of the relatively small capital pool of the colonial coin market, the big Auction Events often come in staggered clusters, since the auction companies know that our wallets can only handle so much at once. The most recent quarter included Part I of the next big Auction Event: maybe not Fordian in its size and scope, but the biggest colonial coin offering since the Ford smorgasbord folded its tablecloth. Ted Craige's broadly based cabinet of early American coins has been locked in a closet since his death in June 1971. A few things were sold from the collection early on -- his gem George Clinton cent, now in a Long Island collection, was sold in 1973, and some portion of his Connecticut coppers were repackaged into his "frontline set" and sold around the same time -- but mostly the collection has remained intact and off the radar. The first section, offered in Stack's-Bowers' November auction, included two of his most in-depth collections, his 1721-22 French Colonies nine deniers and his Saint Patrick coppers. It is no coincidence that the lack of a standard variety reference inspired Mr. Craige to concentrate his considerable energies towards these important specialties.

The November Stack's-Bowers sale will stand out in long-term libraries more than its spine title ("Early American Coin Session") would suggest. If Part One of the Craige Estate collection was all it contained, it would be a keeper, but the first-ever C4 sale conducted with Stack's-Bowers also contained an important type collection formed by Jack Royse of Indiana, the Fugio set belonging to the great Rob Retz, Dan Friedus's well-pedigreed Vermont coppers, Dave Wnuck's impressive collection of Spanish-American circulating counterfeits, and plenty of other consignments. There were 991 lots of colonial-oriented material, all sold in a single marathon evening session that went until roughly 3am.

Extracting some kind of market thoughts from such a long and varied session is a bit of a challenge, but here are some bullet points for the folks who are too A-D-D to read this much text:

The upper end of the colonial coin market, as always, is healthy.

State coppers are as popular now as they've been in a decade or more, but newer collectors are more picky about color, surfaces, and overall quality than before.

There aren't enough George Clinton coppers to go around.

Truly choice Saint Patrick farthings and 1721-22 nine deniers are rare.

The best coins are beautiful, rare, and interesting. All in-demand coins are at least two of these three. If it's just one of these, it's cheap right now.

After Midnight is not just a pretty good J.J. Cale/Eric Clapton song, it's also a good time to sell contemporary counterfeits.

The Jack Royse Post-Game Show

The upper end was populated by coins like the NE sixpence (Lot 6002), which brought what it was worth at \$431,250, about what a nice NE shilling would sell for. The NE sixpence was far rarer, but less beautiful than a nice NE shilling; I'd say it is similarly interesting however. Thus, the price was in line. It surpassed my cautious pre-sale expectation.

The George Clinton copper opened to gasps at \$110,000 and sold to more gasps at a hammer of \$190,000 (\$218,500 all in). For a coin that was pretty nice in a choice circulated way and genuinely rare and interesting, I guess this price shouldn't be too surprising. It has been decades since one sold at auction. This begs the question though: what's an Unc worth if a Fine is worth a quarter million bucks?

The Sommer Island sixpence, ex Roper:3, seemed like it brought more than enough at \$86,250. Then again, the last time a nice one sold was 2008.

The Carolina Elephant token, ex Steinberg, was a good deal at \$23,000. It was pleasing, free of major problems, untampered with, just a good looking example of a classic type. This price range is a bit of a black hole in the marketplace though: most folks who can spend \$25,000 on a coin can afford to pay \$50,000 for a nicer one, while there is a huge emotional leap between spending \$10,000 or so (which many collectors would stretch to for a special coin) and spending twice that. I call this the Diamond Ring Effect: most collectors won't spend more for a coin than their beloved's best diamond is worth. Failure to recognize the Diamond Ring Effect can result in the Sleeping On The Couch Effect.

The Royse Higley, apparently new to the census, brought pretty much exactly what it should have at \$46,575. It opened at \$40,000 and hammered at \$40,500. Two great minds apparently thought alike.

Chalmers shillings have gotten expensive! The Royse coin (Lot 6019) brought \$18,400 in VF-35 (PCGS) and another later in the sale (Lot 6413) in EF-40 (PCGS + CAC) sold for \$20,700. Then again, the one in the Heritage sale (on which, more later) in AU-58 (PCGS + CAC) brought just \$28,200 after bringing \$37,375 in 2007. Why? Discuss.

French colonies 1670 5 sols have gotten expensive! After a nice one in the August 2011 Stack's-Bowers ANA sale brought \$37,375, everyone in the room looked around, thinking someone was about to shout out "aw sh*t, I was bidding on the wrong lot!" No such exclamation; collective shrugs ensued. Then the Royse coin, a pleasant but not atypical EF-40 (PCGS), brought \$18,400. In 2008, Heritage sold three examples in the PCGS AU range (50-58): they sold for between \$4,600 and \$5,750. Stack's sold others in a similar range over the years. What happened?

The *Inimica Tyrannis America Confederatio* copper is one of the great distinctive rarities of early America, one of those things that is too rare to be supremely valuable and too enigmatic to be avidly sought. The Royse coin seemed cheap at \$32,500 hammer; then again, it was holed and plugged, and that turns off most folks who spend nearly \$40,000 on a coin. This coin and its history proves two things, neither of which will surprise the folks reading this: PCGS misses stuff (they called it "smoothed" instead of holed and plugged) and coin dealers make stuff up sometimes (the previously published provenance is improbable, to say the least, and appears to have been invented by James Kelly and Sol Kaplan).

The Royse collections of state coppers are the way I'd collect them if I were to pursue state coppers: hit the high points by displaying all the head types and the distinctive (i.e. Redbook) varieties, and collect them with nice color and surface. Bidders seemed to appreciate Mr. Royse's careful eye, honed by guys like Dick Picker, Larry Stack, and Tony Terranova. It's good to have good help!

Not-quite-rhetorical question: Does an x-scratch constitute graffiti any more than two scratches that happen not to cross do? Euclid might say that all non-parallel scratches will intersect given a big enough plane. PCGS would say that your otherwise perfect, gorgeously toned Standish Barry threepence is no better than one that has SAL WUZ HERE carved into it with a penknife. Alas, bidders are savvy creatures, and the Royse Standish Barry brought \$43,125, the exact same price as the PCGS VF-30 ex. Maryland Historical Society that sold in the November 2009 Stack's sale. Which one was prettier? Not the MdHS coin. But scratches are deal-killers for some folks; it showed.

The Ted Craige Part I Post-Game Show

Thesis: putting 89 Saint Patrick farthings and halfpence in a single auction session will not crash the market for one of the most fervently collected series related to early America.

Experiment: the Ted Craige collection, the biggest grouping of these things sold since the Griffie sale, with a far higher average grade.

Result: mostly positive. The lower quality coins, pieces that would have likely traded in the \$800-1,000 range as individual coins before this sale, often sold comparatively cheap. Nice coins, the ones with choice color and sharpness that often brought in the \$9,000-10,000 range earlier (usually in EF or AU PCGS holders), sold at a light discount; many have resold closer to previous market levels since. The market did not fall apart, and collectors ended up with most of the coins, having outbid the dealers in the room. This is the way auctions are supposed to work.

Biggest surprise: Lot 6127 at \$7,475. Your humble correspondent, who was also the cataloguer of this stuff, missed the little bird under the king. Do little birds matter? Yes. Yes they do. For some reason I missed the bird on the coin when cataloguing but saw it, plain as a cardinal at a snow-covered feeder, in the catalogue image. Oops.

Most unpleasant surprise: Getting the catalogue in the mail and finding out that not every Saint Patrick and French Colonies nine deniers coin had been illustrated. I recommend borrowing a kindergartener's glue stick, printing the pictures out from the Internet, and pasting the images onto loose leaves to be tucked into the catalogue.

The high grade silver Saint Patrick farthing was really beautiful in hand, and it brought more than I thought it would: \$80,500. It was in an AU-58+ PCGS holder, which apparently means it only had the amount of wear induced by near-contact with an angel's wings. Actual contact with angel wings would have undoubtedly meant it was just AU-58. For what it's worth, Ted Craige called it "Gem."

Get the white-out: Those of us present watched the probably-unique Newman 7-F American Plantation token sell for \$75,000 hammer, while muttering variations on "what the ..." under our breath. That didn't actually happen. It sold for \$35,250. Check the

Stack's-Bowers website and don't ask further questions. Those who control the past control the future.

Plus de neuf deniers, s'ils vous plaient: The nine deniers coppers of 1721 and 1722 have been ignoré depuis trop longtemps, and it's about time they had a coming out soiree. For everyone who thought these things were only Canadian: allez sauter dans un lac. Clearly, at least a handful of collectors have recognized that they are a vital early American copper series, they're nearly impossible to find in nice overall quality, and their varieties are just as interesting to collect as any other early American copper series. The highlight of the offering was the 1721-B in VF-20 (PCGS), Lot 6245, which brought an impressive \$23,000. It's the key date of the three date-mint series (four if you count the 1722/1-H overdate) and is never seen with decent surface quality. Comparatively, the less smooth but sharper WWC Wilson-Hillyer Ryder coin (Lot 6247) was a good deal at \$5,750. The best of each issue brought strong money, evidence of abundant competition from those attempting to assemble date sets, but plenty of above average coins still hammered for less than \$500, even less than \$200. Clearly, for all the strides they've made, this series still has a way to go. Exceptional coins like the Parmelee 1722-H, Lot 6267 at \$9,890, are the sort that come along once in a generation -- or once a century.

The Little Guys

After the great bounty of fresh material from Royse and Craige, a lot of the air came out of the balloon, perhaps attributable to men of a certain age needing to pay their water bill and partially attributable to the quality of the material. There were some nice fresh consignments among the 500+ lots that didn't come from famous "name" collectors, but the overall quality was more typical of what would be seen in a standard Stack's-Bowers auction. Some material was indifferently catalogued, or lacking in terms of photography, and the collectors present just weren't as excited about the bulk of the material. Mixed in, there were some real bargains to be had on nice coins. As an example: Lot 6591 was the Winsor-Ryder-Boyd-Ford Maris 67-v. What's that you say? You didn't know it had a pedigree back to 1895? I didn't either, as it wasn't in the catalogue; it was added to the web description at some point, likely at the behest of the disappointed consignor. That piece brought \$2,760 in 2003. In 2011, it sold for \$1,955. What's it worth? Somewhere between \$2,000 and \$3,000 I suppose. But it makes the point: pedigree matters, context matters, and cataloguing matters.

Among the non-Craige and Royse material, coins with superior eye appeal, color, and surface carried the day, as these were the coins that dealers were willing to chase for stock and for which collectors were willing to battle. Problem coins, those with poor surfaces, those lacking originality, et cetera, don't see as much action in a context such as this. Auctions, at their base represent a number of choices, and most folks in such a setting choose to pursue coins of above average quality. Good cataloguing can't help a coin sell for too much money if a bidder knows there will be another more or less just like it available in the next auction or on the bourse floor. Only one thing can raise the prices of coins which, for lack of a better word, are typical: more demand.

The Rob Retz Fugios

For those who didn't have the privilege of knowing Rob, the offering of his collection might not have brought forth the wellspring of emotion from those of us who remember his role as an early, vocal supporter of C4. Rob was a big personality, loud and garrulous, fun and opinionated. He was also very serious about collecting and about getting to know other collectors. His seriousness showed in his collection of Fugios, which was formed as a true *reference* collection. Not many people gather reference collections anymore, that is, collections whose primary purpose is to serve as a corpus of knowledge to refer to for research. A type set isn't a reference collection, nor even are most variety sets. Rob's collection was, composed of coins that showed off the aspects of the varieties they were chosen to represent. That meant high sharpness was a given, where possible, and good surfaces were sought after where possible. So were die states that were rare or distinctive. The result was the greatest critical mass of Fugio varieties since Ford I in 2003.

As is often the case, the first few coins in a sale end up being the best deals: collectors tend to survey the landscape before putting their hands in their air. As such, the three Cross After Dates all were a bit soft: the nice Newman 1-B in PCGS EF-45 for \$5,750, the very scarce 1-L in PCGS F-12 for \$2,760 (try to find another for that price!), and the very sharp but granular 1-Z for \$18,400, which was about right. The FUCIO in decent PCGS VG-8 for \$6,037.50 was a fair level for a tough-to-duplicate coin. As the lots went by, prices escalated, highlighted by the very nice "1 Over Horizontal 1" Newman 10-T at \$16,100, the superb Newman 13-N at \$9,775 which went to a leading collector of the series, and the tough-to-upgrade Newman 15-V from Picker and Hancock that sold for \$7,475. Prices like these show that there are avid collectors of Fugios, folks who want to fill holes or upgrade their quality, but far fewer than could be chasing such an important series. Someday, even strong prices like these will look like bargains.

Counterfeits from Upper Wnuckistan

Dave W. and I have long shared a love of Spanish-American circulating counterfeits. They're visually interesting, part of the historic fabric of early America, and still in their pioneer days in terms of publications and research. Dave put together an impressive collection of these things, built around his superb collection of counterfeit two reales by Kleeborg number. In the world of circulating counterfeit Spanish-American coins, \$500 marks an expensive piece; \$2,500 is just about top of the food chain. Dave was a top buyer both privately and in the major auction offerings of the genre, namely a 2007 Coin Galleries offering and the 2009 Ringo sale. Prices were generally lower, sometimes trivially and sometimes markedly. I see a few reasons for this: since 2009, with a few collectors avidly seeking out this sort of material, the common stuff has become more common. Most of the handful of specialized collectors are a few duplicates deep in a few of the most commonly encountered issues. At the same time, the rare pieces have remained rare, but there are more of them; several new unique or extremely rare varieties have been identified. The collector base has not grown to keep up, unfortunately, and removing Dave from the active bidders was akin to the extinction of

an apex predator. Alas, others stepped up, and there were few rips. My favorite two reales in the collection was the overstruck 1793 Liberace Head, Kleeberg 93A-L6. Kleeberg only knew of three, though the population has expanded quite a bit since then. Dave paid \$1,725 for this piece in 2007. It brought \$1,410 in the sale; not bad, all things considered. A second non-overstruck specimen brought \$402. I liked the chopmarked 1794, ex Ringo, enough to pay \$477 for it, though it only brought \$322 back in 2009. Dave's big winner was the two reales counterfeit struck over an 1802 large cent, Lot 6963, which surpassed the price paid in the 2009 Ringo sale by almost a grand, and deservedly so. The highest price realized was \$3,450 for a 1776 eight escudos struck in platinum, Lot 6974.

So the first ever Stack's-Bowers C4 sale was one to remember, for its fresh material, for its diverse consignments, and for its duration, which rivaled screening *The Iceman Cometh*, *Gone With the Wind*, and *Godfather II* back to back to back. I was lucky to get to catalogue a lot of it (Royse, Craige, Retz), and glad to be able to bid and watch live.

Heritage December 2012 Sale

I did not get to catalogue or participate live in the other colonial sale this quarter, namely Heritage's event in the early December Money Show of the Southwest in Houston, Texas. My observations will thus have to be extremely general in nature.

Lot 3007, an American Plantation token in MS-63 (PCGS), brought \$3,055 despite some raised corrosion, a planchet crack, and an edge flaw. The Craige MS-63 (PCGS), the best I've ever seen, brought \$3,910. This brings to mind two thoughts: not all MS-63s are in the same ballpark (or even the same league), and the Craige piece clearly went far too cheap.

Lot 3012, a 1722 Rosa Americana Penny in MS-63 (PCGS + CAC) brought \$7,637.50. It realized \$6,325 in Ford IX in 2005, looking somewhat less bright.

Lot 3023, a 1766 Pitt halfpenny in MS-63 (PCGS) brought \$11,750. It had sold for \$12,650 in the August 2006 Heritage ANA sale. As a type, the prices of Pitt tokens have softened since then.

Lot 3034, a 1788 Connecticut Miller 16.2-O in VF-20 (PCGS), brought \$3,055. Recent prices realized include two pieces in the Tanenbaum collection (\$259 and \$126), the 2009 Americana sale (\$690), Bowers and Merena's 12-04 sale (\$633), Stack's June 2004 sale (\$115), and the magnificent EF/AU Miller-Boyd-Ford coin (\$3,450). I am at a loss to explain the price realized of the Heritage coin. It was correctly attributed and is apparently the only INDL ET thus far certified by PCGS.

Lot 3035, a 1786 NON VI VIRTUTE VICI in EF-40 (PCGS + CAC), brought a very healthy \$64,625.

Lot 3056, a very nice 1787 Fugio copper, Newman 13-X, was graded MS-66BN by PCGS and given a CAC sticker. That Bank of New York Hoard coin, admittedly far prettier than most, realized \$25,850, precisely 10 times more what a MS-62BN currently sells for. Good news, fellow collectors: the new owner is “proactively entertaining offers,” according to the Heritage website. Step right up.

Lot 3062 was the AU-58 (PCGS) 1783 Chalmers shilling, referred to earlier. It brought nearly \$10,000 less than it did in January 2007, though other Chalmers shillings have been selling at substantial premiums over the prices they brought a few years ago. The coin’s technical quality was very nice, though its toning is admittedly bold. As a long-time aficionado of the Chalmers coins, I was shocked this coin brought so little.

Lot 3070, a Franklin Press token in MS-64RB (PCGS), brought \$8,225. It had sold for \$4,025 in its last appearance in January 2007. It showed significant amounts of red. The last Mint State PCGS-certified piece sold by Heritage was an MS-63BN that brought \$977.50 in December 2011. Red is clearly a lucky color in places other than just China.

Lot 3082, a rare 1791 Washington Liverpool Halfpenny in AU-55 (PCGS), sold for \$6,462.50. An AU-58 (PCGS), ex Norweb, brought \$18,400 in a 2010 Bowers and Merena auction; that coin had earlier brought \$19,550 in the 2006 Norweb sale. Purchasing a pleasing specimen for a price under \$10,000 is a coup.

Lot 3087, a beautiful MS-62 BN (PCGS) Washington Born Virginia, brought \$25,850. The exact same coin sold for \$55,200 in the 2006 Norweb sale.

The highlight of the entire sale (Lot 7103) was described, in total, as “1787 COPPER New Jersey Copper. Outlined Shield -- Environmental Damage -- PCGS Genuine. VF Details. (#503.97) (PCGS# 503)” in the final internet-only session. The seventh known specimen of Maris 44-c realized \$32,900. What might it have brought with an attribution in the catalogue?

In Conclusion: It was an exciting couple of months for colonial coin auction watchers. It’s nice to be in the marketplace when fresh material comes up. More will be forthcoming soon, and undoubtedly plenty of nice coins will trade privately and on bourse floors too. Even if you’re not likely to be a big shot buyer, seeing as many of these coins as possible -- in dealer inventories and at auction lot viewings -- will improve your eye and give you a greater context within to place your own coins and those you’re offered in the future. There is no substitute for seeing real live coins in your hand, as many as possible.

NOT ALL COLONIAL PERIOD COINS WERE USED FOR COMMERCE

(Ray Williams)

It was not uncommon for colonial silversmiths to use silver coins to produce their wares. The coins would be hammered, rolled, melted, cast or struck into the item being made. How many thousands of Spanish Eight Reales or British Crowns were melted for this purpose, and lost to numismatics?

It is fun to see the coins, or remnants of them, on some of the items produced. Pictured here is a beautiful “Toddy Ladle”, an interesting relic from the past having both a whaling and a numismatic connection. Inset in the base of the bowl is a shilling of Queen Anne, dated 1708. The bowl itself was made from a British crown, possibly of William III. Although no details of the obverse and reverse remain, the edge of the bowl shows the edge lettering of a crown, stating that it was struck in the eighth year of the reigning monarch. The handle is made of twisted baleen, tipped with a silver cap.

This item can be viewed as part of the American Numismatic Society Collection, when you visit them the next time you’re in NY. (www.numismatics.org/)



Honorial and Memorials Fund Established

The Board of Directors has established Honorial and Memorial Funds into which money can be donated from members and non-members of C4 in memory of an individual or in honor of an occasion. Currently, there are two funds into which one can donate. The current funds are the "Educational Fund" and the "Library Fund." The distribution of money from these Funds will be done by a committee made up of Jim Rosen, President, Jack Howes, National Vice President and Buell Ish, Region 7 Vice President.

We would ask that individuals who want to donate money in memory of an individual or to honor an individual or an occasion (excluding weddings and birthdays and anniversaries), fill out the attached form, paying particular attention to the fields that are starred. Send the filled out form to the C4 Treasurer. Your donation will be acknowledged by a personal letter and also in the *Newsletter* unless you want your donation kept anonymous. In addition, the person or family to whom you are making your donation in memory of or in honor of will receive a letter notifying them of the donation. As we are a "Non- Profit" organization, your donation is tax deductible (but always consult your tax advisor regarding this).

We sincerely hope that this venue will keep the memories of our dear friends alive and let us honor our friends and occasions.

Jim Rosen, President, C4.

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C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

Thank You to those who have checked their old copies of auction catalogs and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. The Library is interested in getting copies of past auction catalogs that we currently do not have. Take a look at the list shown on the club website. Any that are not already in the library are greatly appreciated. Remember, all catalogs that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section separated and added to the library archive. Catalogs with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety.

Below are new items acquired by the club since the last *C4 Newsletter*. They are now available for loan to any C4 members. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org. Thanks to all who have donated items!

Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Salmon, Christopher J., *The Silver Coins of Massachusetts*, The American Numismatic Society, New York, NY 2010 – Purchased by C4.

Martin, Sydney F., *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Sheridan Books, Ann Arbor, MI 2011 – Purchased by C4.

Stacks Bowers, *Baltimore Auction - Early American Coin Session, The C4 Convention Sale*, 16 November 2012, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Stacks Bowers, *The March 2012 Baltimore Auction*, 21-24 March 2012, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Stacks Bowers, *The January 2012 Americana Sale*, 24-26 January 2012, New York, NY – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Stacks Bowers, *The New York Americana Sale*, 26-27 January 2011, New York, NY – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

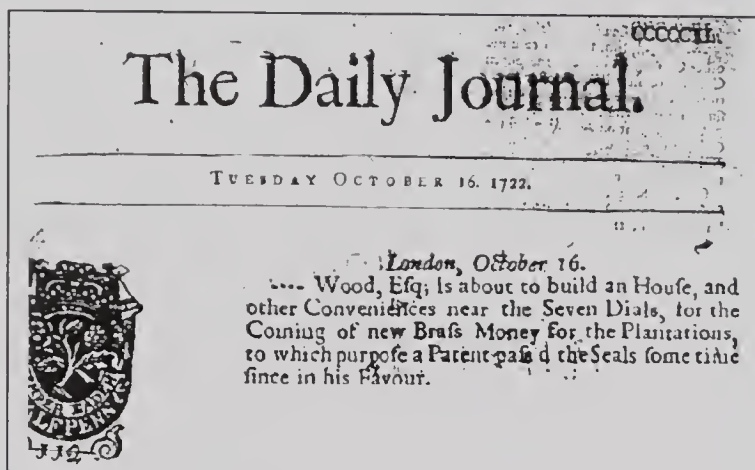
Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my email is Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com -- or write to me at 1130 Woods Lane, Warminster, PA 18974.

*****ANNOUNCEMENTS*****

C4 ANNOUNCES THE RELEASE OF ITS LATEST BOOK:
THE ROSA AMERICANA COINAGE OF WILLIAM WOOD

by Sydney F. Martin

William Wood conceived a plan to manufacture coins for Britain's American Plantations, which were constantly in need of small change to support everyday commercial trans-actions. This plan became entangled in the politics and economic theories of the day, with King George, his mistress, Isaac Newton, Robert Walpole, and other English notables, as well as the colonial merchants, playing key roles in the story behind the production and distribution of the coins.



Drawing upon his original research the author examines the historical context in which the coins were produced, integrating often conflicting existing material. Particular attention is paid to the methods employed in manufacturing these coins, from the underlying metallurgy, to the process of preparing and striking the planchets, the locations where they were made and their circulation patterns.

A catalogue of known die varieties is developed for each of the three denominations issued. Some 21 varieties of halfpence, 66 varieties of pence, and 36 varieties of twopence are identified. As well as describing the coins themselves, he has explored related experimental and pattern issues, providing new insights into these enigmatic issues. Production quantities are estimated, rarity and condition census data developed, and major holdings examined.

Michael Hodder, in his *Introduction* states "The best advice anyone can take before undertaking a difficult research project is condensed in this quotation from Marcus Portius Cato Censorius (234-149 B.C.): 'Master the subject, the words will follow.' Syd Martin's new book on William Wood's Rosa Americana issues is a good example of the continuing aptness of the saying."

The book, which is enjoying favorable reviews, can be obtained from Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature, P.O. Box 547, Wenham, MA 01984; Tel: 978-468-2933; Fax: (978) 468 7893; email: numislit@aol.com.

Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are \$10 for the first and \$8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

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C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following three books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis, Numismatic Literature, P.O. Box 547, Wenham, MA 01984; Tel: 978-468-2933; Fax: (978) 468 7893; email: numislit@aol.com.

(1) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002.

(2) Vlack, Robert. *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004.

(3) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724)*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007.

Hardbound copies of past C4 auction catalogues are available in very limited numbers. If interested, contact Ray Williams or Leo Shane.

The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob>.
<http://www.forgerynetwork.com/asset.aspx?id=QEjfd5ZR~x~8>

The Silver Coins of Massachusetts.

The Silver Coins of Massachusetts by Christopher J. Salmon is a splendidly illustrated review of the silver coins of Massachusetts, employing the latest historical and numismatic evidence as well as novel scientific analysis. Minting techniques are explored in detail. All varieties of the coinage are newly classified with a consistent yet flexible taxonomic system that lists the varieties in chronological order and can readily accommodate potential future discoveries. The system allows an appreciation for how varieties evolved and the relative degree of change that occurred at each step. It is designed to be as simple as possible without oversimplifying, with all varieties named according to their obverse and reverse dies. The book includes a fully illustrated atlas that details important characteristic features. The last part of the atlas displays each variety at actual size to aid

in attribution. Regardless of your specialty, adding a Massachusetts Shilling to your collection is always a welcome event. Consider adding this book to your library. To order, call Megan at ANS with your credit card at 212-571-4470 ext 117.

C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently \$25.00 for Regular Membership and \$10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age). They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or \$625.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to:

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Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

NEW RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are actually two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or give a call.

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Jim Rosen. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Scott DeGuilo - NJ
Gregory Fitzgibbon - VA
Oliver Eli Grabicki - CT
Anthony Lopez - CA

Bruce Patton - FL
David Stagg - CA
Garrett Ziss - PA

CLASSIFIED ADS

Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$200	\$300	\$450	\$600	6" x 9"
1/2 page	\$125	\$180	\$250	\$350	6" x 4.5"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.



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I am interested in acquiring unusual (e.g., mis-struck, counterstamped, love tokens) and high condition examples of 1721-B, 1721-H, and 1722-H nine denier French colonial pieces. I'm also seeking unusual edge markings on Kentucky pieces. Syd Martin: sfmartin5@comcast.net or 215-348-8149.



Mike Shetty

If you are a serious collector, I think you will like my book on collecting. If you have ever wondered why we devote so much time and energy to studying the colonial coins we all love, I think this book will get you started on a journey of self-discovery. Check it out.

One Coin is Never Enough: How and why we collect.

My book is available directly from Krause Publishing or from Internet sellers like Amazon.com. It is not expensive, and I think C4 members will like this book.

The Earliest American Coppers. Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish Halfpence and Farthings. My personal collections built over the past decade are now for sale. We now have a webpage up and running with most coins imaged and priced. More will go up from time to time. I also have some Colonials and Spanish American Colonials-Cobs up. There are currently about 12 categories populated with coins for sale, they are; British George II, British George III, Irish George II, Irish George III, Counterstamps, Cast Cfts, Mules, Errors, Regal's Colonials and Cobs. In the near future I will be adding some interesting Misc. I am still selling CD's of my collections, the details are on the webpages. Postage is always free for C4 and EAC members. Please use the savings towards next years dues ;-). Please visit the webpages and feel free to email with any questions.

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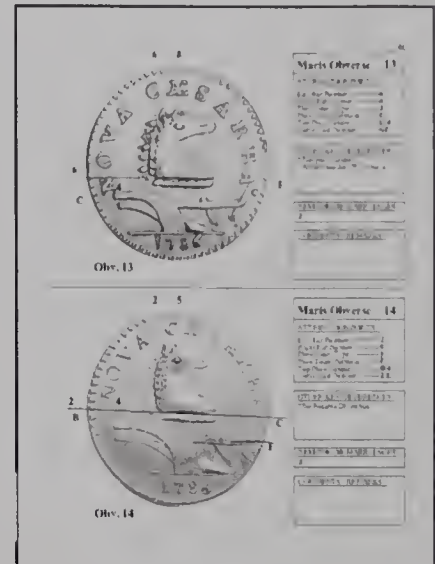
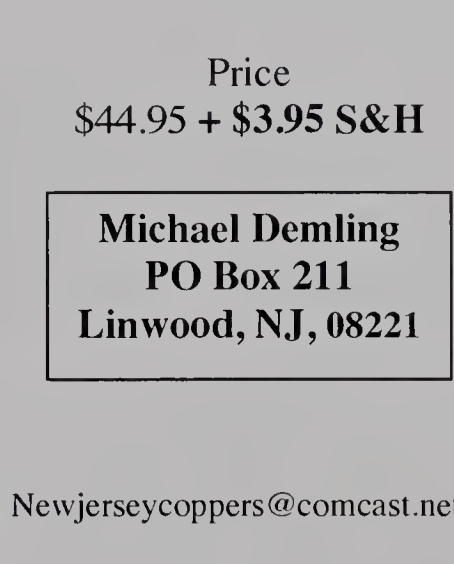
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1. **Abstract**



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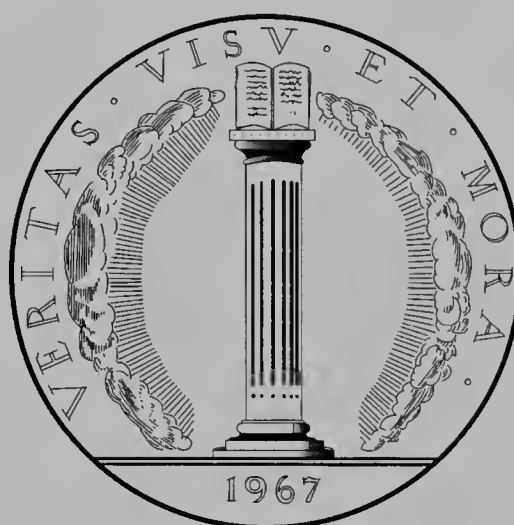
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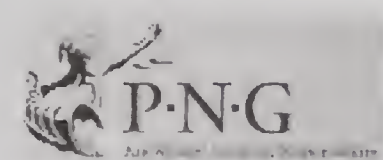
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